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celeb buzz Pg38

Jennifer keen on starting family

City scientists inch closer to organ repair

HEALTH Toronto scientists have found a way to turn human embryonic stem cells into a cell type that creates all the organs in the gut, including the lungs, liver and pancreas. The findings, published yesterday in the journal Stem Cell, will help researchers reach their ultimate goal of using stem cells to repair damaged organs and treat disease. Led by scientists from the Hospital for Sick Children, the team uncovered key mechanisms that control how human embryonic stem cells transform into immature endoderm cells. Those endoderm cells go on to produce the respiratory and digestive tracts and the liver and pancreas.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Man charged with sex assault of 12-year-old

Beijing Games page 16

Sky's the limit for track stars

World page 9

Obama fatigue setting in?

Fundraiser for sick kids

Charity kickoff

SAMY PORTO/TORSTAR NEWS

Toronto Argonauts kicker Mike Vanderjagt kicks off the sixth annual Canadian Miracle Treat Day at the Hospital for Sick Children yesterday. The one-day fundraiser, organized by the Children's Miracle Network and Dairy Queen Canada, will raise money for Canada's children hospitals.

China gets ready for Olympic glory

It will be far more than fireworks — it will be China's statement to the world, a celebration with a subtext that says: This is how we wish to be seen.

And how the Chinese wish to be seen is civilized, cultured and modern — and, in a certain sense, dazzling, as only a rapidly rising power can be.

Tomorrow's opening ceremony for the Olympic Games will be worth the wait.

It will be a carefully crafted spectacle, three years in the making, that will use high-tech to tell a story of how an ancient civilization grew into a modern nation.

"We will showcase the essence of the civilization," Zhang Heping, a senior official with the Beijing organizing committee, promised yesterday.

"We will showcase the long ancient history ... and what the modern Chinese people can offer the world."
Senior Chinese official

"We will showcase the long ancient history ... the splendid culture ... and what the modern Chinese people can offer the world."

Yes, there will be fireworks: 35,000 shells' worth according to Chinese artist Cai Guo-Qiang, and they'll explode from Tiananmen Square all the way north to the new National Stadium known as the Bird's Nest.

And, yes, there will be acrobats — and a cast of 15,000.

But before all that, at the very beginning, there will come a moment when this nation of 1.3 billion people will stare into their television screens in rapt attention. Once the Olympic rings are unveiled, the Chinese national flag will enter the stadium, it will be raised slowly up a flagpole and the Chinese national anthem will be played to a worldwide audience.

The Beijing Games slogan is "One World, One Dream."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Toronto on list of economic giants

Chin up, Toronto. The website of U.S. business magazine Forbes has ranked Toronto as the world's 10th most economically powerful city.

That may not be enough for an Olympic medal. But it puts Toronto on the same list as New York, Paris, Hong Kong, Tokyo and London, notes Stuart Green, a spokesperson for Mayor David Miller. And there's nothing wrong with that.

"It acknowledges that Toronto is Canada's economic capital," Green said in an interview.

Coun. Adrian Heaps put it in a more jocular vein: "I don't know the actual terms of reference Forbes used, but at the worst-case scenario, it's free advertising."

The Forbes analysis combines data on economic size, growth rate, the cost of living and the quality of life to come up with a ranking of economic power.

London gets the top spot largely on the basis of its growth rate of 3 per cent, while its two larger rivals are growing in the 2 per cent range.

As for Toronto — Forbes apparently uses Greater Toronto for its measurements — the magazine pegged its GDP at $209 billion, as of 2005.

The website describes Toronto as the "economic heart of one of the world's wealthiest countries, and it's projected to keep humming through 2020."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

New policies

- Stuart Green said Toronto is getting good notices in part because of a series of new policies, such as granting property tax incentives for new business development in certain neighbourhoods, and committing to a long-term program of scaling back business property tax rates across the city.

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Man injured after kicking ACC glass door
A man was sent to hospital with a gash in his leg Tuesday night after he kicked a glass door at the Air Canada Centre following a Nine Inch Nails concert. Police said the man could face mischief charges. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Local

Khadr bail proposal

Muslim extremists, including the late patriarch of Canada's notorious Khadr family, visited an Islamic centre that is now willing to give his son a job as part of a bail proposal, an Ontario court heard yesterday. Members of the Salaheddin Islamic Centre in east-end Toronto have pledged $50,000 in bail money for Abdullah Khadr, left, who has been in custody for 2½ years.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

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News in brief

STANDOFF A dispute over a dilapidated shed led to a standoff in the city's east end yesterday. Police said city officials went to a home on Secord Avenue to enforce a work order to tear down an old shed that had been deemed unsafe. But a man who refused to co-operate with the work order barricaded himself in his home and leaned out a window waving a machete, threatening to chop off an officer's head, they said. Doon Rampersad, 39, is charged with assault with a weapon and threatening death. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Exhibit **Dino dance**

TONY BOCK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Mandy Wang, 11, mimics an allosaurus, part of a new dinosaur display at Pearson Airport's Terminal 1. The exhibit is a collaboration between the Royal Ontario Museum and the GTAA.

Arrest for abduction

Man linked to North York case

When 15-year-old North York girl Sharmini Anandavel disappeared nine years ago, 23-year-old Stanley Tippett was a prime suspect.

Stanley Tippett

Police questioned him at least three times. They searched his car and his apartment, interviewed his friends, and followed him for days. But Tippett, Anandavel's former neighbour, vigorously maintained his innocence.

When Anandavel's skeletal remains were found four months later, police said she had been murdered. No one was ever charged.

In subsequent years, Tippett began to amass a rap sheet. In December 2005, he was convicted of criminal harassment after an alleged attempt to kidnap a 21-year-old woman. Upon sentencing him to two years in prison, a judge called him a "stalker" and a "predator."

Yesterday morning, Tippett, now 32, was arrested and charged with the abduction and sexual assault of a 12-year-old Peterborough girl.

Tippett, who a Peterborough neighbour says is married with five children, allegedly abducted the 12-year-old after she left a birthday party around 1:30 a.m. yesterday with friends.

Police do not believe Tippett knew the girl, who is recovering in an Oshawa hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Second arrest in Katelynn's death

Police have arrested Warren Johnson for second-degree murder in the death of Katelynn Sampson, just days after police charged his partner after finding the body of the young girl in a Parkdale apartment.

Detectives say video footage at the scene shows a man and two children leaving the apartment building where the seven-year-old was killed, just as an ambulance responded to a call that she was choking to death.

Police arrested Johnson, 46, at the Parkdale Arms, in the Queen Street West and Strachan Avenue area yesterday evening within 20 minutes of releasing his photo and news that they had obtained a warrant for second-degree murder.

Homicide Det.-Sgt. Steve Ryan said Johnson joined his common-law wife Donna Irving, 29, as a suspect in the death of Katelynn after investigators reviewed surveillance video and spotted Johnson leaving the scene with the couple's two younger boys around 2:30 a.m. Sunday.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Police warn about pharmacy forgeries

Police are warning Toronto-area pharmacies about possible forgeries after two blank prescription pads were stolen from a health centre.

The pads were taken from the Forest Hill Family Health Centre on Eglinton Avenue near Avenue Road. The pads are inscribed with the name of the clinic and are preprinted with physicians' names.

Any pharmacies receiving a prescription from the health centre are asked to call them to confirm its validity at 416-782-6111. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Alleged bike theft ringleader undergoes transformation

COURT It wasn't Igor Kenk's legal woes that had court watchers talking yesterday. It was the bike shop owner's sudden makeover.

Igor Kenk

A newly dapper Kenk walked unnoticed through a clutch of photographers and reporters as he made his way to a court appearance on bike theft and drug charges at Old City Hall.

Lanky and clean shaven, with his hair shorn and apparently dyed dark brown, Kenk was wearing a navy polo sweater and grey trousers as he walked into the courtroom and sat in the last row, waiting for his name to be called.

Kenk, 49, was arrested last month and charged with 58 offences related to bike theft and drugs.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Road closures for Taste of Danforth

Taste of the Danforth, the popular weekend-long festival of Greek culture and food, starts tomorrow. Police are warning motorists that Danforth Avenue will be closed from Jones Avenue to Broadview Avenue from 11 a.m. tomorrow until midnight Sunday. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Cyclists asked to wait

InTransit

Ed Drass
transit@eddrass.com

"To reduce conflicts between these two groups I propose that those exiting or boarding streetcars tell approaching cyclists to "Please wait" while raising an open hand."

This column can be a good place to vent about inconsiderate or even dangerous habits we encounter while moving around Toronto, from blocking subway doors to being whacked by someone's backpack. But is it possible to go beyond venting and come up with solutions that work?

There are the standard responses we've looked at before — asking the authorities to devise public information campaigns or increase enforcement of existing rules. These may be worth trying but experience shows they have a short-term impact.

When a reader wrote recently about cyclists riding past open streetcar doors, I agreed this puts TTC passengers at risk. Then I floated the idea of a person-to-person campaign to ask bike riders to please wait until riders have cleared the street.

Responses included some blanket condemnations of all cyclists — a rider wrote they are "the fascists of the roadway" — and another said light rail vehicles are the real problem.

Well, streetcars are going to operate in downtown Toronto for a long time and bikes aren't going away, either. In fact, it's official policy to promote both greater transit use and more cycling.

To reduce conflicts between these two groups I propose that those exiting or boarding streetcars tell approaching cyclists to "Please wait" while raising an open hand. No yelling, cursing or presenting single digits — even if you are ignored or worse. This is a polite reminder, although it's not risk-free.

The aim is to encourage a good habit that will increase safety, but I know there are obstacles to such an experiment. Torontonians tend to avoid speaking to strangers, perhaps fearing a confrontation. That's understandable but leaves us with the same choices of venting some more or hoping officials will intervene on our behalf.

Sherry Bayoumi of Burlington raises the option of better facilities for bikes — such as more routes or space aboard rush-hour GO trains. She often commutes to Toronto by bike and writes, "Until cyclists are honoured and have a safe passage, behaviour will not change and campaigns will not succeed as they fall on deaf ears. When safe cycling is promoted through infrastructure and healthy attitudes (from motorists and pedestrians) then I think cyclist attitudes will change."

As for passing open streetcar doors, she adds, "I'm not saying they are right not to stop. They clearly are not."

Bike-friendly routes will help, such as the West Toronto Railpath planned to run off-street from the Junction area toward downtown Toronto.

Alongside such efforts that take years to complete, I would still like to promote the "Please wait" campaign outside streetcars. If this catches on, perhaps there's hope for changing other common bad habits that affect transit riders.

Ed Drass has a degree in urban studies from York University and regularly rides transit in the GTA.

Officer accidentally shot suspect in thigh, court told

OPERATION In a video played before a Superior Court of Justice courtroom yesterday, a wounded man screams out in agony and says the police officer who shot him called him by a name that wasn't his own.

The court heard Kevin Anthony Douglas was accidentally shot in the thigh by Sgt. Robert Dettman before being arrested and charged with drug trafficking in relation to an undercover York Regional Police operation on April 5, 2006. Dettman said the shooting happened when he realized his van was rolling away and he moved to put his gun back in its holster.

Dettman was staking out 99 Stirling Cres. as part of an undercover operation designed to catch a cocaine dealer in the act.

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Frigate off to fight pirates

Canada has sent a frigate to waters off the horn of Africa to prevent pirates from attacking food shipments bound for Somalia. Defence Minister Peter MacKay said yesterday that HMCS Ville de Quebec and its crew of 253 was diverted from a NATO mission in the Mediterranean. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada

Dion gets another year to pay loan

Elections Canada has given Liberal Leader Stéphane Dion until the end of next year to pay $690,000 in outstanding loans from his 2006 leadership campaign — the same deadline it gave eight other leadership contenders last month. The former candidates have a total of more than $2 million in outstanding loans, unpaid bills and other claims. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Cancer study raises hope

ALICIA FOX
for Metro Canada

A breakthrough in cancer research at the University of Calgary has garnered international recognition and stirred hope for the future treatment of juvenile cancer patients.

Aru Narendran, a University of Calgary professor and pediatric oncologist at the Children's Hospital, announced that he and his team of students have found a way to grow atypical teratoid/rhabdoid tumour (AT/RT) in a Petri dish. The fast-acting yet extremely rare brain cancer targets young children, and the survival rate for those under three is currently at less than 10 per cent.

"Cancer cells, for known and unknown reasons, do not grow outside the body," said Narendran.

After discovering that the cell required a growth stimulatory molecule to grow, the team added a new drug, AEW-514, in a method called target therapeutics that blocked the molecules and the cancer cells stopped growing.

sent to labs

- The cancer cells have now been released to labs across the world to see if their findings can be replicated.

B.C. Bear attacks woman outside home

DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Rick Hahn of the Conservation Officer Service addresses media in Surrey, B.C., after a woman was attacked by a black bear in her own driveway in Coquitlam, B.C., yesterday. Neighbours pelted the animal with rocks to get it off of her. The victim, who hasn't been identified, is in stable condition with serious injuries on her arms and head and with bite marks all over her body, police said.

Report finds holes in defence funding

MILITARY A new report says the Conservative government's stable-funding program for the Canadian military is in shambles. The Senate security and defence committee released a study yesterday that suggests the Harper government's numbers don't add up. Liberal Senator Colin Kenny, the head of the committee, says the planned annual increase of 1.5 per cent to the defence budget is already being outstripped by inflation. THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

POLITICS Liberal foreign affairs critic Bob Rae says allegations by the U.S. that Pakistan's intelligence agency is actively working with Afghanistan's Taliban are "very serious," especially given that Canadian lives are at stake. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Drug bust on the high seas
Spain's Interior Ministry said police have seized more than two tonnes of cocaine in a high-seas raid and arrested 11 people suspected of belonging to a major drug-trafficking ring. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World

Karadzic seeks support

Former Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic, left, applied yesterday to the United Nations war crimes tribunal to summon three former U.S. officials and a former prosecutor to support his claim that he was offered an immunity deal.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Too much Obama?

Barack Obama may be the fresh face in this year's presidential election, but nearly half say they're already tired of hearing about him, a poll says.

With Election Day still three months away, 48 per cent said they're hearing too much about the Democratic candidate, according to a poll released yesterday by the nonpartisan Pew Research Center. Just 26 per cent said the same about his Republican rival, John McCain.

Obama, the 47-year-old Illinois senator who would become the first black president, has dominated political news coverage much of the year. According to an ongoing Pew study, Obama has appeared in more news stories this year and more people say they have heard more about him than McCain, the longtime Arizona senator who also ran for president in 2000.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Significant

- Two-thirds of Republicans and about half of independents said they've heard too much about Obama, as did a third of Democrats, a significant number.

Pakistan **Staying home**

EMILIO MORENATTI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A photo of Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf is seen partially torn down yesterday on the outskirts of Islamabad. Musharraf yesterday suddenly cancelled his trip to see the Beijing Olympics as local media reported the ruling coalition had agreed on steps to remove him.

News in brief

IRAN Six countries agreed yesterday to pursue new United Nations sanctions against Iran after it failed to accept incentives offered in hopes of defusing the dispute over its nuclear program, the U.S. State Department said.

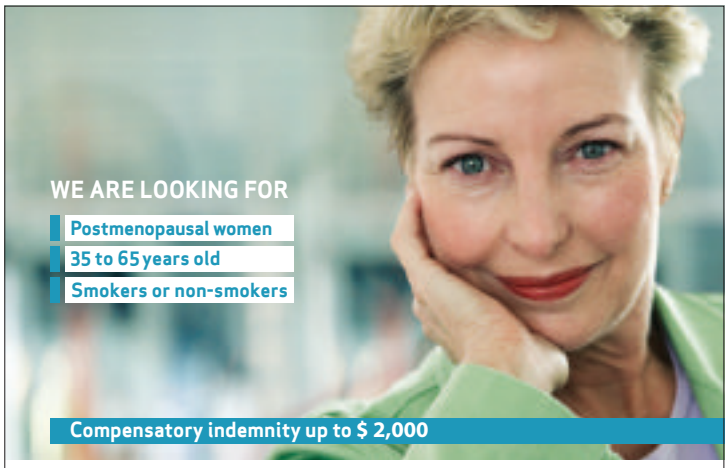
MAURITANIA Army officers upset with government overtures toward Islamic hardliners staged a coup in Mauritania yesterday, overthrowing the first government to be freely elected in this sprawling desert country in more than 20 years.

ANTHRAX Bruce Ivins, a brilliant yet deeply troubled army scientist, was solely responsible for the anthrax attacks that killed five and rattled the country in 2001, the U.S. government declared yesterday, alleging he had custody of the lethal spores involved and access to the distinctive envelopes used to mail them. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Peres posts song about peace on website

Composers from countries including Iran are writing music for Israel's president Shimon Peres' song about peace, Ray of Hope. Peres, 84, posted his lyrics on Songweavers.com. Among those who wrote music was Sadri Ghandehari from Tehran. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Read more Metro online today. metronews.ca



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Driver found guilty

Guantanamo jury convicts Bin Laden's man

A jury of six U.S. military officers convicted Osama bin Laden's former driver of supporting terrorism yesterday, but cleared him of conspiracy charges in the first war crimes trial at Guantanamo Bay.

The Pentagon-selected jury deliberated for about eight hours over three days before returning the verdict against Salim Hamdan, who held his head in his hands and wept when the decision was read.

Salim Hamdan

Hamdan, who is from Yemen, faces life behind bars.

Jurors accepted the prosecution argument that Hamdan aided terrorism by serving as bin Laden's armed bodyguard and driver in Afghanistan while knowing that his boss was plotting attacks against the United States.

Hamdan's lawyers said the judge allowed evidence that would not have been admitted by any civilian or military court in the United States, and that interrogations were tainted by coercive tactics.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Buckingham Palace denies Prince Philip cancer report

COMPLAINT Buckingham Palace yesterday denied a newspaper's report that Prince Philip has prostate cancer, and said it was filing a complaint against the paper for breach of privacy.

The palace said Philip "has authorized us to confirm that the claim made by the Evening Standard that he has received a diagnosis of prostate cancer is untrue."

Prince Philip

Citing anonymous medical sources, the Evening Standard said the 87-year-old husband of the Queen had been diagnosed in April after tests conducted while he was in the hospital for a chest infection.

Philip spent several days in the hospital in April with what officials said was a chest infection.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cheerleaders' prank turns sour

STUCK Twenty-six teenage cheerleaders tried to cram themselves into an elevator at the University of Texas to see how many would fit, but then they got stuck and had to be rescued.

The elevator went down to the first floor but then the doors of the overloaded elevator wouldn't open, officials said. After a few panicked cellphone calls, police and firefighters were called.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Ford launching blind-spot mirror on Edge
Ford Motor Co., in a race with General Motors to bring the technology to market, said yesterday it has moved up the date to introduce its new blind-spot mirror to this fall on the 2009 Ford Edge crossover. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Business

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OIL $118.58 US $0.59

EDITOR: FERMIN DESOUZA, FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Bell earnings tumble

BCE Inc.'s second-quarter results have given analysts comfort that the company's $52-billion privatization will be completed as planned, but continued losses in the telephone business highlight the challenges facing the new owners as they attempt to right the slumping giant.

The Bell Canada Inc. parent said yesterday that earnings for the period fell to $392 million from a year-earlier $700 million.

Observers noted that Bell beat expectations in the key wireless sector even as rival Rogers Communications stole headlines by capturing a deal to sell Apple Inc.'s popular iPhone device in Canada.

Bell said net subscribers additions grew by 32 per cent to 83,000 over the three-month period while wireless network and equipment revenue grew by 9 per cent and 36 per cent as customers upgraded to smartphone devices.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Bleeding clients

- Bell lost 125,000 landline subscribers last quarter.
- It also lost 7,000 business customers and 1,000 Internet subscribers.

Home sales slide, prices up just 1%

HOUSING Sales of existing homes in the Toronto area are down for the seventh month in a row compared to 2007, with the price of an average home up by only 1 per cent — the lowest increase since 2001.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICES

Business in brief

ENERGY Oil prices briefly dropped below $118 US a barrel yesterday after a jump in U.S. fuel supplies fed beliefs high prices are curbing demand.

TROUPE The founder of the Cirque du soleil insisted yesterday he is still in control of the circus troupe after selling one-fifth of the business to two companies owned by the Dubai government.

REVENUE Cinema chain operator Cineplex Galaxy Income Fund says revenue from its theatre business increased to $209.3 million in the second quarter. METRO NEWS SERVICES

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Heather Reisman and Horst Rechelbacher
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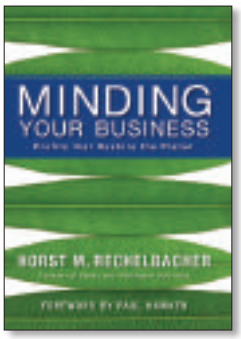

Join us as Heather Reisman interviews Horst Rechelbacher as they discuss his new book, *Minding Your Business: Profits That Restore the Planet*. Horst Rechelbacher founded Aveda in 1978, and has recently launched his new certified organic health and beauty brand, **Intelligent Nutrients**.
Book signing to follow.
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Raptors schedule released

The Toronto Raptors won't have to wait long to get a shot at the revamped Philadelphia 76ers. The Raptors will open the 2008-09 NBA season on Oct. 29 on the road against the 76ers. Toronto's home opener follows two nights later against the Golden State Warriors on Oct. 31. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sports

Esks' Ray wins weekly honours

Quarterback Ricky Ray, who threw for 392 yards and two touchdowns in leading the Edmonton Eskimos past the B.C. Lions last week, was named the CFL's offensive player of the week yesterday. Defensive end Jonathan Brown of the Toronto Argonauts was a unanimous selection as defensive player of the week. Teammate Dominque Dorsey was also a unanimous pick for special teams player. THE CANADIAN PRESS

EDITOR: JONATHAN P. KUEHLEIN, SPORTS@METRONEWS.CA

Marcum gets his groove back

Jays starter carries no-hitter into sixth inning, gets first win since May 26

BLUE JAYS 5 ATHLETICS 1

After experiencing three rough starts since returning from a month-long stint on the disabled list, Toronto Blue Jays right-hander Shaun Marcum responded with a much-improved performance last night.

Marcum (6-5) handcuffed the limping Oakland A's for much of the evening, carrying a no-hitter into the sixth before receiving some fine defence from his teammates in a 5-1 win before a crowd of 29,256 at the Rogers Centre.

It was the third consecutive win for the Jays (58-56) against the A's (53-60), who have lost a season-high nine games in a row and 18 of their past 20.

Marcum, who gave up 16 earned runs in his past three starts after spending a month on the shelf with a sore elbow, allowed just three hits in seven innings to notch his first win since May 26.

Scott Downs held the A's off the board in the eighth to extend his scoreless streak to 14⅔ innings before closer B.J. Ryan finished it off with a scoreless ninth.

Marcum allowed his first hit in the sixth when Bobby Crosby stroked a leadoff home run to left to cut the Jays' lead to 3-1. Prior to that home run, Marcum struck out five consecutive A's, mixing speeds and pitches wonderfully.

The A's finally seemed to put Marcum on the ropes in the seventh when they loaded the bases with no out, but strong defence by Toronto prevented Oakland from adding to its run total.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/J.P. MOCZULSKI

Toronto Blue Jays closer B.J. Ryan, right, and catcher Rod Barajas celebrate a 5-1 win over the Oakland A's last night.

First, shortstop John McDonald charged in to field a Mark Ellis broken-bat grounder and threw home, where catcher Rod Barajas made a nice catch on a short hop that just beat the slow-footed Frank Thomas for the first out. Then, with the bases still loaded, second baseman Marco Scutaro fielded a Jack Hannahan grounder and threw to second to McDonald, who then leapt to avoid a hard slide and fired to first, where Lyle Overbay caught a one-bouncer for a lovely inning-ending double-play.

A's starter Gio Gonzalez (0-1) made his major league debut and didn't fare too badly after a troubling first inning. The Jays had three hits in the inning off the left-hander, including a three-run home run by Barajas that extended the catcher's hit streak to seven games.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Bucs, Jets emerge as Favre favourites

NFL Green Bay Packers general manager Ted Thompson was not seen at practice yesterday and his scheduled early afternoon media availability was postponed — one of several signs a trade involving Brett Favre might be brewing.

Favre's agent, James Cook, confirmed in an e-mail to The Associated Press yesterday that the Tampa Bay Buccaneers and New York Jets were emerging as the most likely trade destinations for the three-time MVP.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOTTERIES

Lotto 6/49	10, 18, 22, 26, 34 & 38. Bonus 39.
Ontario 49	1, 14, 17, 19, 32 & 43. Bonus 5.
Ontario Pick 3	1 5 8
Ontario Pick 4	2 3 6 7
Encore	5573643
Daily Keno	1, 7, 11, 13, 14, 16, 18, 21, 26, 30, 31, 32, 41, 42, 46, 51, 56, 62, 65, 69.

Results not official

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CFL great Lancaster diagnosed with cancer
Former Ticats head coach Ron Lancaster made a career out of battling adversity as a CFL quarterback on the football field. But the Canadian Football Hall of Fame member is facing yet another tough battle off the field. Lancaster, 69, is battling lung cancer. THE CANADIAN PRESS

PGA Golfers ready for last major

MEL EVANS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ben Crane tees off on the 17th hole during practice for the PGA Championship yesterday, at Oakland Hills Country Club in Bloomfield Township, Mich. The PGA's last major of the season begins play today without injured world No. 1 Tiger Woods.

Despite woes Ticats feisty

They're battered and bruised and tied for last in the East Division standings. But Michael Fletcher says the Toronto Argonauts can't afford to look past the Hamilton Tiger-Cats.

The Ticats (1-5), who've lost four straight, will be without starting quarterback Casey Printers (thumb) and rushing leader Jesse Lumsden (ankle) when they face Toronto (3-3) at Ivor Wynne Stadium tonight (TSN, 7 p.m. ET).

It will be the second meeting of the year between the two teams. Fletcher and the Argos would rather forget about the first encounter as Hamilton rushed for over 300 yards in downing Toronto 32-13 at Rogers Centre in July for its only win of the season.

Fletcher

Lumsden anchored Hamilton's rushing attack, running for 189 yards on 20 carries and scoring two touchdowns.

"They really were able to run against us," Fletcher said. "We can't afford to forget about that and I don't think we will, to be honest."

That's good, because the running game is a staple of Hamilton's offensive gameplan.

The Ticats are leading the CFL in rushing, averaging a whopping 167 yards per game. In contrast to its success on the ground, Hamilton is ranked last in the league in passing, averaging 238 yards per game.

Stout pass defence has long been a forte of Argos defences, and this year is no different. Toronto is ranked first in the CFL against the pass, allowing 242 yards per game and a league-low four TD passes.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

SCOREBOARD

MLB

AMERICAN LEAGUE EAST DIVISION	W	L	PCT	GB
Tampa Bay	68	45	.602	—
Boston	65	49	.570	3½
N.Y. Yankees	61	52	.540	7
TORONTO	**58**	**56**	**.509**	**10½**
Baltimore	54	59	.478	14
CENTRAL DIVISION	**W**	**L**	**PCT**	**GB**
Chicago Sox	62	49	.559	—
Minnesota	63	51	.553	½
Detroit	55	57	.491	7½
Kansas City	53	61	.465	10½
Cleveland	49	64	.434	14
WEST DIVISION	**W**	**L**	**PCT**	**GB**
L.A. Angels	71	43	.623	—
Texas	60	54	.526	11
Oakland	53	60	.469	17½
Seattle	44	70	.386	27
NATIONAL LEAGUE EAST DIVISION	**W**	**L**	**PCT**	**GB**
Philadelphia	62	51	.549	—
Florida	60	54	.526	2½
N.Y. Mets	59	54	.522	3
Atlanta	52	62	.456	10½
Washington	42	71	.372	20
CENTRAL DIVISION	**W**	**L**	**PCT**	**GB**
Chicago Cubs	69	46	.600	—
Milwaukee	64	51	.557	5
St. Louis	63	52	.548	6
Houston	54	59	.478	14
Pittsburgh	52	62	.456	16½
Cincinnati	52	63	.452	17
WEST DIVISION	**W**	**L**	**PCT**	**GB**
Arizona	59	55	.518	—
L.A. Dodgers	56	56	.500	2
Colorado	52	63	.452	7½
San Francisco	48	65	.425	10½
San Diego	44	70	.386	15

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS
AMERICAN LEAGUE
L.A. Angels 9 Baltimore 4
Minnesota 7 Seattle 3
Tampa Bay 10 Cleveland 7
TORONTO 5 Oakland 1
N.Y. Yankees at Texas
Boston at Kansas City
Detroit at Chicago White Sox
NATIONAL LEAGUE
Chicago Cubs 11 Houston 4
Milwaukee 6 Cincinnati 3
Pittsburgh 2 Arizona 0
San Francisco 3 Atlanta 2
Philadelphia 5 Florida 0
San Diego 4 N.Y. Mets 2
L.A. Dodgers at St. Louis
Washington at Colorado

TODAY'S GAMES
AMERICAN LEAGUE
Oakland at **TORONTO** 7:07
N.Y. Yankees at Texas, 8:05
Detroit at Chicago White Sox, 8:11
Tampa Bay at Seattle, 10:10
NATIONAL LEAGUE
San Diego at N.Y. Mets, 12:10
Florida at Philadelphia, 1:05
L.A. Dodgers at St. Louis, 2:15
Washington at Colorado, 3:05
Houston at Cincinnati, 7:10
Atlanta at Arizona, 9:40

CFL

EAST DIVISION	W	L	T	PTS
Montreal	3	3	0	6
TORONTO	**3**	**3**	**0**	**6**
Winnipeg	1	5	0	2
Hamilton	1	5	0	2
WEST DIVISION	**W**	**L**	**T**	**PTS**
Saskatchewan	6	0	0	12
Edmonton	4	2	0	8
Calgary	3	3	0	6
B.C.	3	3	0	6

WEEK 7
TONIGHT'S GAMES
TORONTO at Hamilton, 7
Calgary at Saskatchewan, 10
TOMORROW'S GAMES
Montreal at Winnipeg, 7:30
Edmonton at B.C., 10:30

SOCCER

GAMES FEATURING TORONTO FC:
SUNDAY'S GAME
TORONTO at Colorado, 4l

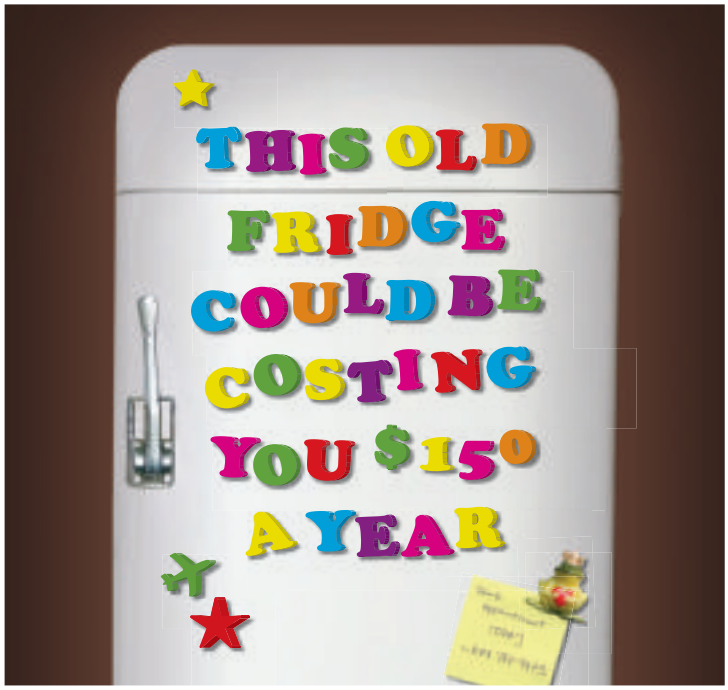
Sports in brief

MLB Joba Chamberlain was placed on the 15-day disabled list yesterday by the New York Yankees with rotator cuff tendinitis in his pitching shoulder.

NBA The Charlotte Bobcats signed guard Shannon Brown to a one-year deal yesterday for the NBA minimum of about $800,000 US.

NCAA Bill Self, the Kansas basketball coach who guided the Jayhawks to their first NCAA championship in 20 years, signed a 10-year, $30 million US contract yesterday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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Rockies claim Hernandez off of waivers

Livan Hernandez was claimed off waivers by the Colorado Rockies from the Minnesota Twins yesterday. The former World Series MVP was 10-8 with a 5.48 ERA in 23 starts before the Twins designated him for assignment Friday to make roster room for Francisco Liriano. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

White pushes for UFC in Ontario

Despite ban of mixed martial arts events fans and athletes embracing booming sport

JOHN CHICK
john.chick@metronews.ca

One thing is for certain about UFC 87 this weekend. It won't be happening in Ontario, and there won't be a UFC fight in Canada's largest province before — and likely well after — the monthly event titles reach the century mark.

Dana White

Yet that doesn't mean UFC president Dana White is going to stop pushing for it anytime soon. "We're working on that," White told Metro in a one-on-one interview this week.

Having seen several U.S. states come around and sanction UFC events under his watch, he's confident Ontario will eventually follow suit. "We're going to keep pushing, and we're going to open up every province here in Canada. We're looking at it like we looked at the United States."

The law prohibiting professional MMA in Ontario is actually a federal one — section 83 of the Criminal Code of Canada, which outlaws prizefights using hands and fists. The law, which was last amended in 1934, makes clear exceptions for boxing, given the use of headgear and boxing gloves. However, individual provinces and even municipalities have the power to choose to regulate Mixed Martial Arts prizefights, as is the case in Quebec, other provinces and First Nations reserves.

So is it possible Ontario could ultimately sanction professional MMA fights, given amateur fights are legal?

"I can't speculate on this," says Alan Cairns, an Ontario government spokesperson. "Any movement to legalize it would have to come from the politicians, they would have to choose to regulate it."

As a result, Ontario MMA fighters and fans aren't thrilled with having to travel outside the province to either fight professionally or witness a prize bout. Despite the law, Ontario has a flourishing amateur MMA community, something White is keenly aware of.

PETER MCCABE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canadian Georges St. Pierre is set to defend his UFC welterweight crown against American Jon Fitch Saturday night.

"Canada is so huge for Mixed Martial Arts and the UFC, and there's so much great talent coming out of Ontario," he says. "Not only the talent, I don't care where we stage a fight, in the United States, the U.K., it's mind boggling how many Canadian fans show up." The numbers don't lie either. In April, UFC 83 in Montreal raked in the highest pay-per-view numbers in the history of Viewer's Choice, the PPV operator serving the eastern half of Canada.

Defenders of MMA are quick to debunk the theory that it's more violent than traditional sports. Richard Garner, host of Drive This, the Toronto-based sports talk show airing across North America on Hardcore Sports Radio and The Score TV network, began an online petition with his crew aimed at legalizing the sport professionally in Ontario and the few U.S. states where it remains unsanctioned. He feels legalizing professional bouts is long overdue.

"If health is the main issue … since 1998, there have been 74 deaths in boxing and just two in MMA," says Garner. "That's two plus two equals five. Bottom line is, it doesn't make any sense." Adds White: "If you don't like it, don't watch it. In the history of UFC we haven't had one death or serious injury … I don't even think badminton can say that."

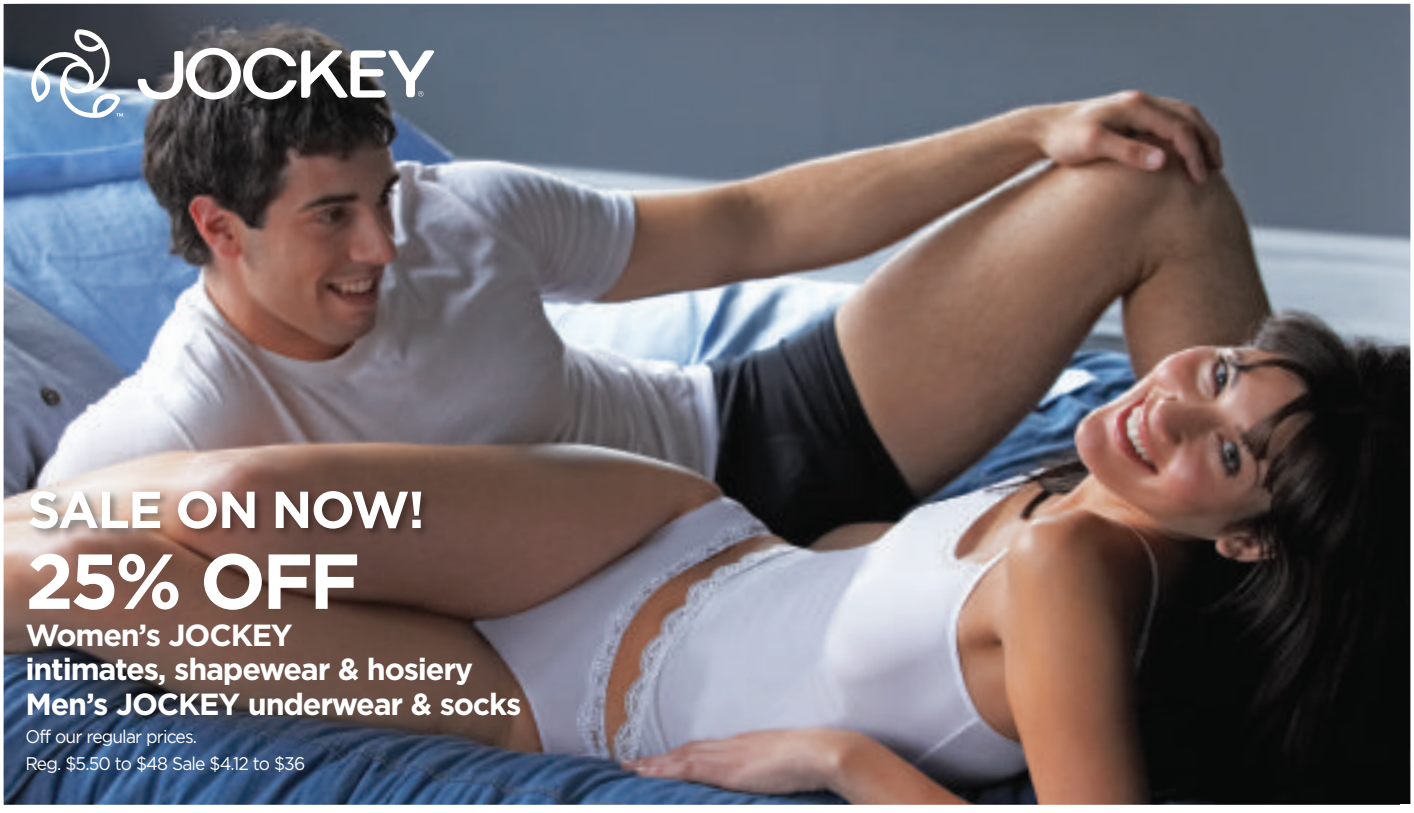
On the topic of UFC 87 itself, White thinks the Kenny Florian/Roger Huerta lightweight matchup has the potential to be the fight of the year. "I've been excited about that fight for months," he says.

As for Canadian welterweight champ Georges St. Pierre, White says, "every time he fights, he looks better and better." It will be St. Pierre's first bout since defeating Matt Serra in Montreal, and White says he's in tough against Jon Fitch. "I don't think people realize the fight he's in this weekend … Jon Fitch is a bad dude, but if Georges can walk through him like he has everybody else, it'll be impressive."

And for the time being Ontarians will have to be content in travelling to neighbouring provinces and states — like Quebec in April and Minnesota this Saturday — to watch Canadians like St. Pierre fight.

Online

- For more information on the movement to legalize professional MMA fighting in Ontario, visit *hardcoresportsradio.com* and click on 'Hardcore Petition'.



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Flag raised
Canada held its traditional flag-raising at the Olympic Athletes Village, just a couple of blocks from the main Olympic complex. "This feels great," swimmer Mike Brown said. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Beijing Games

SPECIAL FEATURES EDITOR: STEPHANIE BOMBA, STEPHANIE.BOMBA@METRONEWS.CA

Two Canadians added to singles

TENNIS Canadians Frank Dancevic and Frederic Niemeyer have been added to the men's draw for the Beijing Olympics.

Niemeyer, from Deauville, Que., replaced the Mario Ancic, who withdrew yesterday, while Dancevic, a native of Niagara Falls, Ont., replaced Denis Gremelmayr. Rainer Schuettler and Jiri Vanek were also added as injury replacements.

The draw for the Olympic tennis tournament is to be held tomorrow and play begins Saturday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Track stars racing to the top

'We're going to do whatever it takes,' teammates say

MARTY YORK
marty.york@metronews.ca

Canada's track and field team has been shut out from Olympic medals since the glory days of Donovan Bailey back in 1996, but the drought could end this month.

Both Tyler Christopher and Gary Reed, close friends with similar backgrounds, are generally perceived to be fast enough to possibly make it to the podium in Beijing.

Christopher, of Chilliwack, B.C., holds the Canadian record for the 400 metres. Reed, of Victoria, B.C., won the silver medal for the 800 metres at the world championship in Japan last year.

"We don't take s–t from anybody, and we're climbing our way to the top," Christopher said. "It doesn't matter how hard it is. We have a goal that's set in front of us and we're going to do whatever it takes to achieve these goals."

Reed suffered a setback on July 26, when he fell during a race in England and failed to finish. Only a week earlier, the 26-year-old speedster had won the 800-metre race at a meet in Belgium, recording his fastest time of the season — 1:44.46.

In Athens four years ago, Reed ran out of gas in the semi-finals, saying he was mentally exhausted. He's eager to prove he can overcome adversity in Beijing.

"Trust me, nobody in the media wants to win a medal more than I do, I can guarantee that," Reed said recently. "I'm the one who gets up in the morning and goes and trains. I want it bad."

Christopher and Reed developed a bond after they discovered they both grew up in difficult circumstances, raised by single mothers in near poverty.

"We've made it this far, against the odds," Christopher said. "We know we can go further now."

Christopher, 24, started running 15 years ago because, he said, "my mom wanted to put me in something where I could burn off the excess energy I had. Next thing you know, I started winning races."

Christopher left B.C. at the age of 17 to pursue track in Edmonton, where he had access to better facilities and coaching.

In his 2004 debut, he posted a record-setting qualifying time of 45.25, but was two weeks past the deadline to make the Canadian Olympic team — which meant he could not compete in Athens.

He's counting on the advice and experience of his buddy Reed to help him flourish in Beijing.

"Gary won't let himself get mentally exhausted this time," Christopher said, "and he promised he won't let me get that way, either."

THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE PHOTOS

Gary Reed, left, and Tyler Christopher are both aiming to medal.

Canada beats Argentina in debut

Canada's debut in Olympics women's soccer was a success: Canada beat Argentina 2-1 yesterday in the first competitive event of the Beijing Games.

Goals by Candace Chapman in the 27th minute and Kara Lang in the 71st gave Canada a comfortable margin and allowed the Canadians to withstand an 85th minute counter by Argentina's Ludmila Manicler.

The win is huge boost for Canada's hopes of qualifying for the quarter-finals of the 12-country tournament.

Canada faces China on Saturday and completes its first-round on Tuesday in Beijing against Sweden.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Tomorrow's lineup

GOING FOR GOLD "I'd trade every world championship for one Olympic gold medal," says Kyle Hamilton, captain of the Canadian men's eight rowing team. Pick up tomorrow's Metro for more.

1 day remains until the official start of the 2008 Summer Olympic Games in Beijing.

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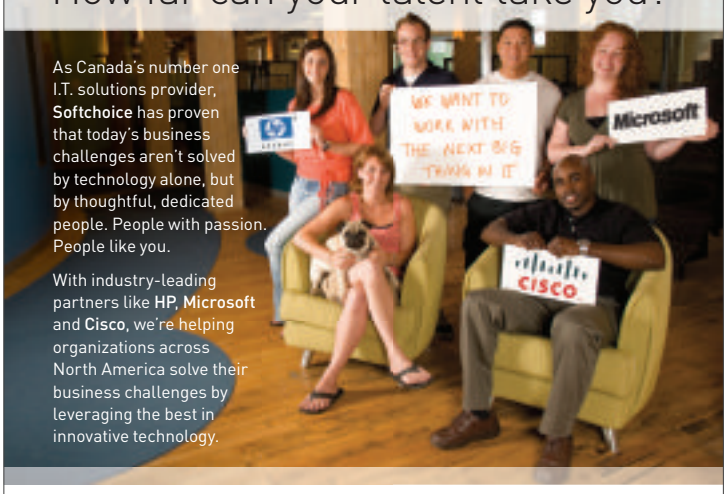

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The green age comes home

page 25

The exterior of the SmartHome exhibit on the grounds of Chicago's Museum of Science and Industry. The museum opened the home to show the public it can be easy to incorporate environmental sustainability into their own houses.

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New dreamhomes & condominiums Magazine
To learn more about new homes real estate, pick up your FREE copy of New dreamhomes & condominiums Magazine at your nearest DreamBox.

Personality pieces

Treasures can be found at the flea market

Ahhhh! What could be more delightful than leisurely weekend trips to local flea markets to pick up décor treasures?

But wait, the design team can already hear the groans of protest from all you urban-dwelling hipsters. Well, before you get too adamant, Tammy and I are here to tell you that flea markets may be good for a lot more than grandma-style doilies and chipped old china.

Even if you're not into the country or cottage look, a visit to the flea market or second-hand store may be just the thing to help you inject some personality into your décor.

And you don't need to totally embrace that antiquey look that flea market finds can often impart. Instead, you mix and match to add interest. Remember that it is often the finishing touches that will turn a somewhat ordinary room-

ful of new furnishings into a room that sparkles and is a true reflection of the owner's refined tastes and interests. What could be better than that?

When you choose items from the flea market, pay attention to colour and form so the pieces fit into your existing décor. For example, a series of old mustard jars in a grey-green colour may fit beautifully into your cream and green kitchen. Also, buy in pairs, so you can avoid that lonely, lost-item look. Or else you may think in terms of a collection or a theme—the items must look related to each other in some way.

For example, a series of bird drawings found in vintage books may be framed and hung on the wall to delightful effect.

The wonderful thing about vintage items is that many are or look handmade, and they proudly bear imperfections and the scars of many years of use. They are beautiful in a well-aged way that a brand-new shiny piece of furniture or crockery could never be.

A series of vintage beakers placed on a new table, for example, will help add personality and warmth and will soften the hard edges and look of mass-produced furniture. It will add a sense of history, of connection to the past — a very attractive quality!

An antique piece of furniture placed amidst a more modern setting can produce an interesting counterpoint, a contrast to the other pieces. It will add a patina of history, a sense of elegance and timelessness to a new place that may not have — let's face it — much personality. As long as the piece itself is solid, you can repaint, reupholster or refinish it in any way you like. In fact, a modern finish or a contemporary fabric on an older piece can make it a showstopper.

TORY ZIMMERMAN/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Something old meets something new. An antique piece of furniture placed amidst a more modern setting can produce an interesting counterpoint, a contrast to the other pieces.

Don't forget that you can also incorporate knitted throws, or throw cushions with old-fashioned lace ruffles to add a sense of personality and warmth. If you're handy with a sewing machine, you can use old faded curtains to make delightful vintage-looking slipcovers for non-descript dining room chairs, for example.

As always, be selective. Only choose those items that you love, and continuously weed out those things you no longer find pleasing.

Finally, be prepared to take the time it takes for you to amass a truly personalized and treasured collection of furnishings and décor. It will not happen overnight, but the local flea market is truly a great place to get started, even if you are an urban hipster.

Tammy Schnurr and Jeffrey Fisher are hosts of Arresting Design on W Network.

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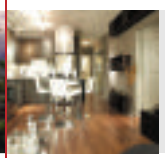

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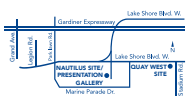

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Canadian Gardening Magazine
Read more in the August/September issue of Canadian Gardening magazine. **ON SALE NOW!** *canadiangardening.com*

Outside Decor

Canadian Gardening

Paradise on the Prairie

Two gardeners turn a sterile lot into a verdant oasis

PHOTOGRAPHY BY MIKE GRANDMAISON

The water feature is the showpiece of this garden in Brandon, Man.

The grasses and colourful annuals of this Zone 2 front garden tell no tales of the bald, open Prairie that confronted Greg Boguski and Joe Stouffer when they bought their property seven years ago.

In a scant 2½ years, they transformed the nutrient-poor subsoil of a subdivision in Brandon, Man., into a lush Eden. The water feature is the showpiece, so keeping it looking its best is key. Here's how they do it:

- When the pond water turns green from algae, Greg checks the pumps are working and waits until the pond settles. He also adds barley straw pellets to the water once it clears, which keeps it algae-free until mid-August, when he adds more pellets.
- Hornwort (Ceratophyllum demersum), an oxygenating water plant, also helps control algae, as do regular applications of dry bacteria (such as Aquascape Ecosystem Extreme).
- To prevent the water hyacinths from being swept downstream, Greg and Joe devised a Hula Hoop from PVC piping to corral them in.

— LORRAINE FLANIGAN

A lush Eden **Gems found in Greg and Joe's Manitoba garden**

Daylilies, heucheras, feathered reed grass and Joe Pye weed thrive.

Pitcher plants (Sarracenia spp.).

The bench overlooking the pond is one of Greg's favourite places to relax.

clippings

Time to clean up browning foliage

BUSY WORK Are you looking for something to keep you busy this summer? Below are some jobs you can do:

1 To encourage fresh growth, clean up browning daylily foliage by plucking out dead leaves or cutting the clump back to about 20 centimetres above the crown.

2 In late summer, plant bulbs of fall-blooming autumn crocus (Crocus spp.) and naked ladies (Colchium spp.).

3 Use a soaker hose to keep trees, shrubs and perennials well watered during periods of drought.

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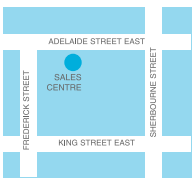

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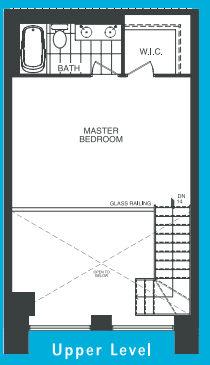
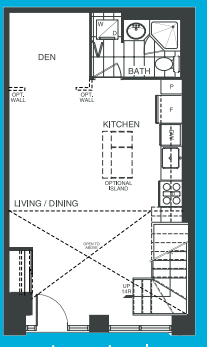


Upper Level



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ADVERTISING FEATURE

Join the Renaissance

The Renaissance was an era when culture, art and architecture flourished; a time that was the source of much new beauty that came into the world.

Earlier this year, in the countryside of Aurora, a new Renaissance was born. Not a time, but a place where dreams could be realized and aspirations attained. This place was Renaissance Estates by Ballymore Homes – a private enclave of remarkable two-storeys and bungalows set in an exclusive community behind distinguished stone entrance gates.

Now the time has come for the Renaissance to expand as new home buyers flocked to the sales office to scoop up the homes in this incredible community.

The time has come for Phase 2, and much like the era of the same name, the only possible way to go is forward.

Every home in Phase 2 will honour the Ballymore tradition of building unique and individual homes – 27 in total with a choice of three different lot sizes 140, 160 or 170 feet deep.

"The 85-foot frontage is very unique because all our models are about 70 feet wide," explains Wayne Milbank of Ballymore Homes. "The floor plans are themselves very unique compared to what people are used to seeing. You can't put a 70-foot-wide house on a 50 or 60 foot lot."

A choice of distinguished models is yours for the asking, featuring all clay brick exteriors with accents ranging from turreted corners to Palladian windows. A beautiful sight to grace the quiet corner of Bathurst and Bloomington Sideroad.

Homebuyers will love the spectacular list of features, including covered porches with double-door entries leading into spectacular foyers; 10-foot ceilings in all bungalows; elegant columned living rooms, conservatories and formal dining rooms; magnificent kitchens appointed with custom style cabinetry and bay windowed breakfast areas with island worktops, writing desks and built-in pantries; family rooms with gas fireplaces featuring marble surrounds and painted wood mantels, dramatic staircases, master bedrooms with huge walk-in closets and ensuites and large three-car garages. The list goes on and on!

"We have granite countertop in the kitchen with an undermount sink, natural hardwood in the living room, dining room, family room and main level hallway and all our staircases are natural oak with wrought iron spindles," boasts Milbank. "Typically there are two staircases to the basement – one from the laundry room and one from the main area. A big feature with people."

The homes will range in size from 2,350 square feet for the smallest bungalow all the way up to 4,300 square feet for the largest two-storey. Prices start at just $794,900.

"All the two storeys have four bedrooms with options to go to five for some. Some have two-storey foyers and half of them have two-storey family rooms," Milbank adds. "Meanwhile, the bungalows tend to come in three-bedroom designs."

From exclusive collections of estate homes backing on to golf courses to residences and executive townhomes, Ballymore has always shown a meticulous attention to detail in design and craftsmanship, as well as an unwavering commitment to customer care and satisfaction. Visit www.ballymorehomes.com or call Wayne Milbank at the Sales Office at 905-841-5079 to see for yourself what makes a Ballymore home stand out from the rest.

in brief

GARDENING Smart gardeners know that not all bugs and birds are pests. Some can be a gardener's best friends. With Ontario's new pesticide ban, it's important to learn how to use beneficial birds and bugs to help your garden grow pest-free, naturally. For example, lady beetles are among the most beneficial insects for controlling harmful insect populations. Lady beetles can be purchased, or you can attract lady beetles to your garden by providing a food source of pollen or nectar for them. Special lures can encourage the presence of other beneficial insects.

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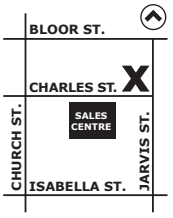

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Closing time: Here's an overview of the fees you'll be facing

TheHunt

Amit Paul
amitp@rogers.com

When you're budgeting for a house or condo, new or resale, one of the important factors to consider is your closing costs.

Closing costs are additional expenses that come with buying real estate. These costs differ, based on whether you're buying and selling, or just doing one.

The costs also differ depending on whether you're purchasing brand new or resale. They can also differ if you qualify as a first-time buyer. Here's an overview:

In order to qualify as a first-time buyer, you must not have owned any real estate. Where you save as a first-time buyer is on the land-transfer tax.

If Ria is looking to purchase a new condo in Toronto or North York (which falls within the 416 area code), she will be subject to the "old" land-transfer tax and the new Toronto land-transfer tax.

The total tax is near 2 per cent of the purchase price — it's slightly lower than 2 per cent if your purchase price is near $300,000 and slightly higher if it's around $400,000. As a first-time buyer, not only are you exempt from the municipal tax, cutting your cost in half, but you also receive a rebate of $2,000 if you're buying new. If you're purchasing resale, you're still exempt from the municipal tax.

For Ria, if her condo purchase price is $350,000, her land-transfer tax would be around $7,000. But if she qualified as a first-time buyer, and if she were purchasing in a brand new development, the cost would be about $1,800.

It's important to keep in mind that buying new carries additional closing costs of about $1,250 compared to resale. The other major closing-cost component is the legal side. The cost here would be around $1,350.

Amit is a Realtor/Developer with Re/Max. amitp@rogers.com

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The thinking person's green home

The bathroom tiles are recycled wine bottles. The hardwood floors are sustainable bamboo. And the sprawling garden gets sprinkled with rainwater collected in 1,300-litre barrels.

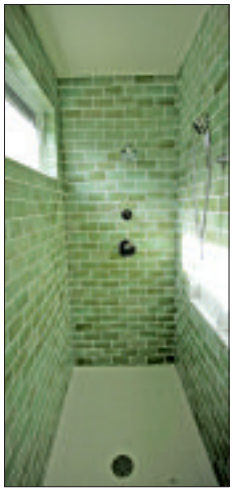
From its recycled plastic deck to its solar-panelled roof, everything in and about the home on exhibit just outside the Museum of Science and Industry has been designed to show the public how easy it can be to incorporate environmental sustainability into their own abodes.

"We tried to look for ideas in every choice that we make in our homes ... hoping that everyone who goes through it will be inspired to make some change on some level," said Michelle Kaufmann, the California-based architect who designed the SmartHome.

The goal of the Chicago exhibit, which runs through January, is to show visitors that saving energy and conserving resources are within reach of everyone — whether it's an entire house or a single feature, museum officials said.

The modular home, which Kaufmann said uses less than half the energy and a third of the water of traditional homes, includes a kitchen with a countertop composter and a sink made from concrete and fly ash — a byproduct of burning coal. Water from the bathroom sink is diverted to the toilet, where it is used for flushing.

A bicycle in the children's bedroom must be pedalled for 30 minutes to charge a battery to power video games.



The bathroom tiles in the shower, above, are made from recycled wine bottles.

Visitors receive a resource guide that tells about the function of each feature, how they're assembled and where they can be purchased.

The bicycle system, for example, was homemade from parts bought on an electronics website.

David Johnston, who owns an international green building consulting firm in Boulder, Colo., said the exhibit is a great way to educate the public about green possibilities, but he hopes that the home's ultramodern architecture doesn't leave visitors with "the impression that green building has to be modern, weird, solar, ugly."

A bicycle must be pedalled 30 minutes to charge a battery to power video games.

"One of the things that's fundamental to green building is that it can look like anything. You don't have to change what the home looks like to make it green."

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Food

"To pick a perfect peach, look for a creamy gold or yellow skin and a pleasant aroma. A rosy-red blush is indicative of certain varieties, not ripeness."

Barb Holland/for Metro Canada

For full flavour

Avoid peaches, nectarines or apricots with even a touch of green, which indicates they were picked too soon and will never ripen to their characteristic sweet flavour.

EDITOR: NINA DRAGICEVIC, NINA.DRAGICEVIC@METRONEWS.CA

À la carte

Barb Holland
Metro Food Writer

Summer peach pleasure

Juicy, ripe peaches are one of the pleasures of summer. Sweet and flavourful, peaches (nectarines and apricots, too) are tender fruit that are at their best when picked ripe and plump. This is also when they are most fragile. The best place to eat these fruits is in the orchard, having just plucked a sun-ripened fruit from the tree. As these sweet delicacies do not stand up to shipping, they are often harvested underipe. The sugars stop developing as soon as the fruit is picked, so try to buy as close to the source as possible.

Warm Peach and Blueberry Tarts with Custard

These open-faced tarts are best served warm. If using puff pastry sheets, just thaw and cut each into 6 equal size squares. Makes 12 tarts.

INGREDIENTS:

Custard:
- 2 tbsp (30 mL) granulated sugar
- 1 tbsp (15 mL) cornstarch
- 2/3 cup (150 mL) milk
- 1 egg
- 1/2 tsp (2 mL) vanilla

Filling:
- 4 ripe but firm freestone peaches
- 1/2 cup (125 mL) fresh blueberries
- 1 tbsp (15 mL) fresh lemon juice
- 2 tbsp (30 mL) granulated sugar

Pastry:
- 397 g pkg frozen puff pastry, thawed
- Freshly ground nutmeg

METHOD:

Custard: Combine sugar and cornstarch in a 2-cup (500 mL) glass measure. Gradually whisk in milk until smooth. Microwave at high 1½ to 2 minutes, until mixture comes to a boil and thickens. Stir at least once during cooking. In small bowl, lightly beat egg. Stir some of hot mixture into egg then whisk warmed egg into sauce. Microwave at medium 20 to 40 seconds or until thickened. Whisk partway through. Whisk in vanilla, set aside.

Peaches, nectarines and apricots are all good sources of potassium, vitamins A and C, are fat free and low in calories. Be sure to eat the skin for added fibre.

Preheat oven to 400 F (200 C). Peel peaches, by dipping in boiling water for 30 seconds; remove with a slotted spoon into cold water for another 30 seconds. Remove, slip off skin and thinly slice peaches. Toss gently with blueberries, lemon juice and sugar in bowl.

Roll out half the pastry on a lightly floured surface to a 12x8 inch (30x20 cm) rectangle. Cut pastry into six 4-inch (10 cm) squares. Place on parchment-paper-lined shallow rimmed baking sheet, spacing apart. Repeat with remaining puff pastry, using 2 baking sheets.

Spoon fruit mixture in centre of pastry squares. Top each with about 2 tsp (10 mL) custard and a pinch of nutmeg. Bake 20 minutes or until pastry is puffed and golden. Rotate baking sheets partway through cooking. Cool baking sheets on wire racks 5 minutes then gently loosen tarts to cooling racks. Serve warm or at room temperature with additional custard thinned with a little milk and warmed in the microwave, as needed.

Barb Holland is a professional home economist and food writer who believes in shopping locally and in season.

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Today until Sunday, the lawns of the Historic Fort York will once again become nirvana for 25,000 beer lovers during Toronto's Festival of Beer. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Food

This cake is bananas

Grill It is brought to you by Chris Schlesinger and John Willoughby, the pair that's popular for their ability to write cookbooks that are fun, gutsy and imaginative. DK Publishing offered Metro this recipe from Grill It:

This cake recipe comes from Grill It, available in hardcover at Amazon.ca for $17.64.

Grilled Banana Upside-Down Cake

Grilled bananas bring a sweet, slightly smoky, caramelized flavour to the "topping" of this twist on a classic, created by our friend and collaborator Kirsten Mikalson. Ground pecans add a little body to the cake's texture and a rich, nutty taste. If you're feeling particularly decadent, try serving this warm with a scoop of dulce de leche ice cream.

INGREDIENTS:

The cake:

- 1/4 cup pecans
- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- Pinch ground cinnamon
- 6 tablespoons unsalted butter, room temperature
- 3/4 cup granulated sugar
- 1 large egg
- 1 large egg white
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 6 tablespoons whole milk

The topping:

- 3 ripe but firm bananas, unpeeled, halved lengthwise
- 1/2 cup firmly packed soft light brown sugar
- 1/4 cup maple syrup
- 3 tablespoons unsalted butter, plus 1 tablespoon for buttering the pan
- 1/4 teaspoon ground allspice
- Pinch salt

METHOD:

Preheat the oven to 350 F (180 C). Generously butter a 9-inch (23cm) cake pan. Build a fire in your grill. When the coals are all ignited, the flames have died down and the temperature is medium hot, you're ready to cook.

For the topping: Place the bananas on the grill over the coals, cut side down, and cook until golden brown and slightly charred (2–3 minutes). Set aside.

Combine the rest of the topping ingredients in a small saucepan and, on the stove top, bring the mixture to a full boil over medium-high heat, stirring until melted and smooth. Cook for 1 minute, then pour into the buttered cake pan. Peel the bananas and arrange them, grilled side down, on the syrup. Set aside.

Toast the pecans in a shallow baking pan in the oven for 5–10 minutes. Grind in a food processor or coffee grinder. Combine the ground pecans, flour, baking powder, salt, and cinnamon in a bowl and mix well.

Combine the butter and sugar in a large mixing bowl and beat until creamy. Add the egg, egg white, and vanilla; beat until light and fluffy (about 1 minute), scraping down the bowl as necessary. Add half the dry ingredients; beat on medium speed until well blended. Add the milk and mix well, scraping down the sides of bowl. Add the remaining dry ingredients and beat until well blended. Spoon the batter over the bananas, smoothing the surface. Bake until a toothpick inserted into the centre of the cake comes out clean (about 30 minutes).

Run a knife around the sides of the pan to loosen. Set the pan on a wire rack and let the cake cool for 15 minutes. Invert the cake onto a serving plate and carefully lift off the pan. Serve warm or at room temperature.

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Beatles tape auctioned
A recently unearthed reel-to-reel tape of what is believed to be a Beatles recording session from 1964 was auctioned online earlier this week for $23,446 US, according to Cameo Auctioneers in the Berkshire village of Midgham. E! NEWS ONLINE

Entertainment

CSI outsider
Actor Laurence Fishburne is close to signing a deal to join CBS' CSI. Fishburne will play a doctor/scientist who comes into the CSI as an outsider and not as a new boss. TVGUIDE.COM

EDITOR: TINA COSTANZA, TINA.COSTANZA@METRONEWS.CA

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

Black's alter-ego revealed

Former Pixies front man embarks on mini acoustic tour

ROB MCMAHON
for Metro Canada

Pixies leader-gone-solo Black Francis has pulled out his acoustic guitar for a few low-profile gigs to fans in Western Canada.

Reached at a truck stop en route to Oakland, Francis (real name Charles Kitteridge Thompson IV) explained that after transitioning back to his pioneering alt-rock persona, he felt the urge to strike out on his own.

"When you walk in on your own two legs, with just a guitar and no one else, and walk out with a pocketful of cash, you can't retire to the Bahamas, but psychologically, you feel like, 'Yeah!'" he said. "It's like you're 14 years old and you've just finished mowing someone's lawn and you make a few bucks."

The mini-tour comes a few weeks after Francis opened for the Stone Temple Pilots in arenas like the Hollywood Bowl. Despite the massive shift in venue scale, he doesn't experience much of a mental transition.

"I think playing a small acoustic set can be more nerve-racking (than a stadium) since you're under the microscope," he said. "I don't think there's much of a headspace change … The things that bum you out are still the same, like the guy you catch yawning."

Francis also recently moved away from the increasingly rootsy, mellow Frank Black back to the id-powered alter-ego that fuelled the Pixies. Now two albums into his more abrasive style (2007's Bluefinger and this year's "mini-LP" SVN FNGRS), Francis feels settled.

"I don't try to analyze it much — I do things more on intuition."
Musician Black Francis

"(The shift) is more of a continuum. It's a symbolic gesture to the universe or whoever, and one hopes that gesture is enough to cause change," he said. "I don't try to analyze it much — I do things more on intuition, without a lot of vision … I didn't feel like I could do it again (since I) hadn't been doing it in so long. It feels good."

For folks catching his acoustic sets, Francis will probably play songs written in both personas. He acknowledged his recent material is a little aggressive and band-oriented for an acoustic setting — though he might try it out.

And as if this wasn't enough, Francis has also wrapped up recording the Grand Duchy project with his wife. The album, which he describes as "classic melodic pop…(with) a kind of naïve, rougher edge" is more her vision.

"We almost had one full-on physical fight in the beginning," said Francis, laughing. "There was a little period where we were pissing each other off, but we do a lot better now … You need that creative conflict … and there was plenty of that."

KRISTIAN DOWLING/GETTY IMAGES

Black Francis, formerly of the Pixies, is moving away from his rootsy, mellow Frank Black sound to a more id-powered, abrasive style.

Randy **Newman**

Album: Harps and Angels
Label: Nonesuch/Warner
Release date: August 5
Rating: ●●●●

WE'RE DEALING with Randy Newman here, one of the best American songwriters of the last 50 years. So it goes without saying that this is a great record. It'll have you laughing out loud as he encounters a clerical error at the gates of heaven (Harps and Angels) or bidding adieu to the Great American Empire on A Few Words In Defense Of Our Country. We never had to be convinced that Randy is a very funny guy, though. Maybe, on his first studio album in nearly 10 years, we could have done with a few more tugs at the heartstrings (Feels Like Home, Losing You) and a little less of the gags.

Graham Rockingham

Oxford **Collapse**

Album: Bits
Label: Merge
Release date: August 5
Rating: ●●●●

WITH SO MANY indie rock orchestras, or frenetic handclap obsessed foursomes out there, it's refreshing to hear an act that can just slap on the distortion and rock out. And if anyone knows the art of keeping it simple, it's Oxford Collapse. The Brooklyn band's fourth disc is a fantastic pop record that will make you nostalgic for '90s acts like The Hardship Post or The New Grand. While it's fast and basic — there are plenty of speedy drums and furious downstrokes — it's also incredibly contagious.

Bryan Borzykowski

Brazilian **Girls**

Album: New York City
Label: Verve/Universal
Release date: August 5
Rating: ●●●

ULTRA-HIP MUSIC to go with a Manhattan fashion ensemble of black berets, skinny jeans, over-roasted coffee and all things European. Multi-lingual vocalist Sabina Sciuba pours the cabaret accents on thick while drummer Aaron Johnston and keyboardist/programmer Didi Gutman provide dance rhythms for people too cool to lift their feet. This album works best when it doesn't take itself too seriously, like on the playful Losing Myself, which could easily have fit on a mid-'80s record by the B-52s. Otherwise, vinyl skipping and subway clacking sometimes substitute for creativity. Brazilian Girls is not for the pharmaceutically challenged.

Graham Rockingham

CD**Reviews**

music@metronews.ca

Conor **Oberst**

Album: Self-titled
Label: Merge
Release date: August 5
Rating: ●●●

IT'S SURPRISING THAT after all these years making music under his Bright Eyes moniker that Conor Oberst would release an album under his own name. Everyone knows Oberst is the brains behind his band, and he often plays alone. But this is somewhat of a fresh start — here he plays some of his most spare and intimate tunes of his career. It's also not the emo-indie rock we're used to; the tracks are full-out alt-country. While it's interesting, others are doing this better. Bright Eyes fans will like it, but Americana aficionados should hear a few tracks first.

Bryan Borzykowski

CD reviews online

• For reviews of new music from Castlemusic, Amy Ray and Olivia Newton-John & Friends, please visit us at metronews.ca.

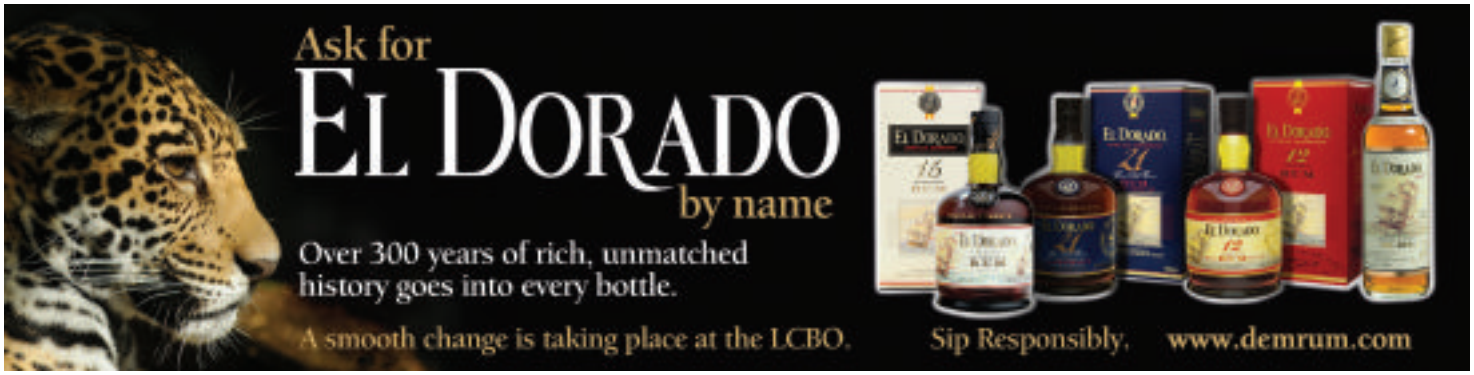
Dark Knight hits another milestone

MOVIES The Dark Knight has shattered yet another U.S. box office record after passing the $400 million US mark in just 18 days, imdb.com reports.

Shrek 2 previously held the record by taking $400 million in 43 days in 2004 — and now the Batman Begins sequel has hit the target in less than half the time. METRO NEWS SERVICES

In **brief**

MUSIC Steven Tyler is set to release his autobiography after the bosses of book company HarperCollins won an auction to publish the memoirs, femalefirst.co.uk reports. The singer is expected to reveal all about his past heroin addiction and ongoing issues with substance abuse in the new book. METRO NEWS SERVICES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Private Practice nabs show

Actor Grant Show has signed on to appear in an early Season 2 episode of ABC's Private Practice, sources confirm. His character, a charming and flirtatious doctor, is said to have ties to a Practice regular. EW.COM

The Killers

Killers disc to be titled Day and Age

MOVIES The Killers' next album will be called Day and Age, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The Las Vegas rockers will release their long-awaited third album in November with the expected title reportedly coming from the lyrics of what is likely to be one of their next singles, Neon Tiger.

Stuart Price, a collaborator of Madonna who previously worked with the band when he remixed Mr. Brightside, has produced their new album, the follow up to 2006's Sam's Town. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Setbacks for pop princess

Lavigne faces backlash, criticism over recent behaviour and last album

KATE CARRAWAY
for Metro Canada

Over the past seven years, Avril Lavigne has established herself as a massive power-pop Canadian export, with appeal that has rivalled both Celine Dion and Shania Twain. Since emerging in 2002 with the album Let Go, Lavigne has been marketed as a Britney alternative, a pint-sized ragamuffin armed with rebellious pop tracks and emotionally intense ballads.

GETTY IMAGES FILE

Despite her tremendous commercial success, Lavigne has faced a tremendous backlash.

Despite her tremendous commercial success and army of dedicated fans, Lavigne's star has been trailed by a significant amount of backlash, all the way from Napanee, Ont., to her current home of Los Angeles. Roundly written off by critics; vilified by the masses for her approach to music, personal style, and public behaviour; and after a handful of unremarkable side projects, the singer-cum-actress-cum-designer's professional stumbles suggest that her reign as Canada's pink-and-blond pop princess is coming to an end.

One of the most vocal opponents of Lavigne is celebrity gossip blogger Perez Hilton. Hilton (real name Mario Lavandeira) has used his influential widely-read blog to deride Lavigne. While Lavandeira is an advocate of all things Canadiana, he posts with regularity about Lavigne's "fangs," her husband (Sum 41 singer Deryck Whibley), her Abbey Dawn clothing line (carried by less-than-impressive American retailer Kohls), and Lavigne's "bratty" behaviour, which includes drunken antics and an infamous incident of paparazzi-spitting.

While it's apparent that Lavandeira benefits from casting Lavigne as a villain, his delight in Lavigne's less-than-stellar ticket sales for recent tour dates, concert cancellations, and reports of her opening for Daughtry and the Jonas Brothers, marks a genuine sea change in Lavigne's stature.

Additionally, a rift between Lavigne and Canadian singer-songwriter Chantal Kreviazuk has been widely reported alongside accusations that Lavigne's songs are, in part, plagiarized. Lavigne's biggest recent hit, the snotty, anthemic Girlfriend from last year's The Best Damn Thing, has been said to closely resemble another song. And while the track's music video recently became the most-watched clip on YouTube, its ascendancy's authenticity was questioned by Wired magazine.

Lavigne's trajectory can't really be considered a "rise and fall" — yet. She is still a major player in the hyper-competitive pop world, and her terrifically successful recording history and uncommon cuteness suggests room for a comeback. If there's anything people like more than a tragic failure, it's a triumphant recovery.

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Archuleta wants Miley touch for debut album

Former American Idol contestant David Archuleta is working on songs for his debut album with Rock Mafia Records, the Santa Monica, Calif.-based tune factory behind the Miley Cyrus hits 7 Things and See You Again. **E! NEWS ONLINE**

Kevin Smith

Zack and Miri wins R rating

MOVIE Filmmaker Kevin Smith has won an appeal to lower the adults-only NC-17 rating for his comedy Zack and Miri Make a Porno to an R rating.

Motion Picture Association of America spokeswoman Elizabeth Kaltman said the U.S. rating was revised after its appeals board viewed the movie.

With an R rating, those under 17 can see it in the company of an adult.

Zack and Miri, due out Oct. 31, stars Seth Rogen and Elizabeth Banks as best friends and roommates who try to make a homemade porn flick to dig themselves out of debt.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tributes to Curtis, Ladd

Class by Brian de Palma headlines Montreal World Film Festival

Tributes to legendary actor Tony Curtis and powerhouse producer Alan Ladd Jr., along with a master class conducted by director Brian de Palma will be among the highlights of the Montreal World Film Festival, organizers announced Tuesday.

The festival, which runs Aug. 21 to Sept. 1, has scheduled 234 feature films — 105 of which are world or international premieres — as well as 13 medium-length movies and 208 shorts.

Paris 36, about three dance hall veterans who stage a musical as France's Popular Front comes to power in 1936, will open the festival.

Curtis and Ladd will be honoured for their lifetime achievement in two separate tributes.

Curtis appeared in some of the most acclaimed films of the 1950s and 1960s, including The Defiant Ones and Some Like It Hot.

Tony Curtis and wife Jill Vanden Berg are seen in Beverly Hills, Calif., in this July file photo.

Ladd is one of Hollywood's most respected producers and saw the release of the groundbreaking Star Wars and Alien during his tenure as president of 20th Century Fox. His own production company also produced such hits as the Oscar-winning Braveheart.

De Palma, a master of the psychological thriller who extended his efforts to other genres including action and science fiction, will share his insights during a master class, the festival announced.

Director Brian De Palma is a master of the psychological thriller

He is renowned for such movies as Body Double, Scarface and The Untouchables.

The festival will also showcase a retrospective of Russian musicals from the Soviet era and a spotlight on Bavarian films.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Rehab

Actor Shia LaBeouf will check into rehab to help his chances of beating a drink driving conviction, according to reports. The star suffered hand injuries and was charged with driving under the influence after a car crash in Hollywood on July 27. **IMDB.COM**

Snipes ordered to pay U.S. court fees

COURTS Actor Wesley Snipes must reimburse the U.S. government in prosecution costs for his tax conviction.

According to court documents, U.S. District Court Judge William Terrell Hodges ruled last week the action film star must reimburse the government about $217,000. Snipes, star of the Blade trilogy and White Men Can't Jump among other movies, had objected to the cost.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GETTY IMAGES

A jury convicted Wesley Snipes in February of three counts of wilfully failing to file his income taxes.

Celebrity hospital probe widens

INVESTIGATION California health watchdogs are to investigate more staff members at Los Angeles' UCLA Medical Center over their involvement in the snooping into celebrity health records, imdb.com reports.

More than 50 physicians and medical workers at the unit have already been probed over claims they improperly viewed celebrity medical records. One former administrative specialist, Lawanda Jackson, has been indicted for allegedly selling outpatient records to the media.

The medical records of stars including Tom Cruise, Farrah Fawcett, Arnold Schwarzenegger and Britney Spears are believed to be at the centre of the ongoing investigation, which was launched after an expose by the Los Angeles Times newspaper earlier this year.

But in a new state report, The California Department of Health investigators found that nearly twice as many medical centre employees than previously reported had looked at stars' confidential medical records.

It means an additional 60 workers could be investigated.

Department of Health boss Kathleen Billingsley says, "What's startling to us is, as we get to a point where we feel we've addressed a specific complaint and a specific issue, we identify additional issues. It's very disturbing to see this."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

KEVIN WINTER/GETTY IMAGES

The medical records of stars including Tom Cruise, Farrah Fawcett, Arnold Schwarzenegger and Britney Spears are believed to be at the centre of the ongoing investigation.

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Just a rumour
Dita Von Teese has laughed off reports she has been asked to perform a private dance for Prince Harry at his forthcoming 24th birthday party. She denies she was ever made an offer. **IMDB.COM**

Snoop goes to Bollywood

MUSIC Snoop Dogg's done Hollywood. Now he's moving on to Bollywood.

"Yo, what up. This Big Snoop Dogg. Represent the Punjabi. Aye ya, Hit 'em with this," the rapper says while introducing the title song to Singh is Kinng, the Bollywood film that opens tomorrow.

Clad in a maroon slim-fitted Indian kurta and beige trousers and a diamond-studded turban, Snoop Dogg lounges on an oversized armchair draped with blue and pink silk alongside Akshay Kumar, the movie's lead star, in a video posted on the Internet by the producers, Cashmere Asia.

"I'm just a king sitting on my throne all alone," Snoop Dogg raps, surrounded by energetic dancers in colourful headgear in a song peppered with rhythmic drum beats. "Singh is King. Singh is King. Snoop Dogg is also the King."

The video was shot over three days last month in Chicago. The film's producers said this was more than a blending of cultures and would pave the way for more collaborations and international brand advertising through Bollywood.

CHARLEY GALLAY/GETTY IMAGES

Snoop Dogg sings the title song to Singh is Kinng, the Bollywood film that opens Friday.

The title song has already taken India by storm and can be heard blaring repeatedly from radios and at bars. Snoop Dogg said he would follow up his success with a tour to India. "Snoop Dogg has a lot of fans in India and I love 'em right back," he said. "Get ready for me."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Entertainment in brief

MUSIC Lil Jon, who was in musical limbo after his longtime record label TVT Records went bankrupt, has reached an agreement with the Orchard.

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Sandy Caetano/Metro Toronto

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YURI KOCHETKOV/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Honour guards carry Alexander Solzhenitsyn's casket and a photograph of him yesterday during his funeral at the cemetery of the Donskoy Monastery in Moscow.

Russian author laid to rest

Alexander Solzhenitsyn, the Nobel Prize-winning author who exposed the horrors of Soviet slave labour camps, was buried yesterday in a Russian Orthodox ceremony that included goose-stepping guards and the dirges of a religious choir.

Solzhenitsyn — who died Sunday at his home outside Moscow at age 89 from a chronic heart condition — was buried according to his will amid the pink brick cupolas of Moscow's Donskoi Monastery, where famous Russian cultural figures have been laid to rest since the 18th century.

The service, attended by President Dmitry Medvedev, had the trappings of a state funeral — honour guards, a military band and rifles fired in salute. As pallbearers lowered Solzhenitsyn's casket into the ground, white-robed priests sang a hymn alongside Solzhenitsyn's wife and children.

Throughout the chilly summer morning, mourners, many bearing carnations and roses, flowed into the monastery's main church where Solzhenitsyn lay in an open casket.

A day earlier, thousands turned out in the rain to pay their last respects to Solzhenitsyn at a wake at the Russian Academy of Sciences.

Most of the mourners appeared old enough to remember the impact of Solzhenitsyn's One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich, which revealed the existence of Soviet dictator Josef Stalin's Gulag, or slave labour camp system.

The book was first published in 1962 during a period of relaxed censorship under leader Nikita Khrushchev.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Jeweller suing designer Karan

Fashion designer Donna Karan, left, is facing legal action from luxury jeweller Cartier for copyright infringement. The jewelry company is accusing her of mimicking their celebrated Tank watch collection. IMDB.COM

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Iggy's show goes on

Montreal police have recovered the rental truck that contained Iggy Pop and the Stooges' equipment, but there is still no sign of what was inside.

The group lost its instruments and stage gear when the truck was swiped Monday after a concert in Montreal.

A police spokesperson said the truck was found empty Tuesday afternoon, abandoned several blocks from the hotel where it was stolen.

Police also indicated that most of the equipment was marked with serial numbers, making it difficult for resale.

The Stooges scrambled Tuesday to borrow enough equipment to stage a show in Toronto yesterday.

Bassist Mike Watts bemoaned losing his longtime Gibson, but took solace that she went out on a high.

"Her last gig was smoking," Watts told the CBC. "Igg was going off and the Montreal people were pumped up."

The stolen items have been estimated to be worth tens of thousands of dollars.

The Stooges are in the middle of a tour with stops across Europe and North America.

The 61-year-old Pop is considered widely influential in the development of punk and heavy metal rock.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

DAVE HOGA/GETTY IMAGES

Iggy Pop on the Main Stage of the Isle of Wight Festival 2008 on June 14 in Newport, Isle of Wight, England.

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WILL RETURN

Allegations dismissed against Bob Barker

LAWSUIT A judge has dismissed allegations against Bob Barker in a wrongful termination lawsuit filed by a Price Is Right employee, saying the game show's longtime host was not her boss.

Deborah Curling, a former production assistant, sued Barker, CBS and production company FremantleMedia North America in October, claiming she faced retaliation after testifying against Barker in another wrongful termination lawsuit.

Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Malcolm H. Mackey tentatively dismissed several claims against Barker yesterday.

Curling's lawyer, Nick Alden, can amend the complaint to try to prove that Barker inflicted emotional distress, but Mackey dismissed that allegation for now.

Mackey also dismissed several claims lodged by Curling against FremantleMedia, but will allow Alden another chance to argue they should be included.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TO	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime 8/7/08	265	353	2	TVO	The Great Robot Race		Morning Sun (Part 1 of 2)		New Tricks		Simon Schama's Power of Art		Morning Sun
	211	331	3	GTV	ET Canada	Entertainment	Big Brother 10 (Live)		Last Comic Standing (Season Finale) (N)			The Office	News (N)
	215	343	4	OMN1	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons	News (N)		Vivere II	News (N)	The Simpsons	King of the Hill	Metropia
	210	302	6	CBC	Coronation St.	Coronation St.	jPod (HDTV) (DVS)		Beijing 2008 Preview (N)		CBC News: The National		The Hour
	214	344	7	CITY	Friends	Hollywood	Ugly Betty (HDTV)		Supernatural (HDTV)		Hopkins (N)		News (N)
	212	313	8	CTV	eTalk	Jeopardy!	So You Think You Can Dance Winner revealed.				Flashpoint (HDTV) (N)		News (N)
	218	345	11	E!	The Insider (N)	E! News	Live From the Red Carpet		*Victor: The Victor Davis Story* (2008, Biography) (DVS)				News (N)
	137	763	13	TFO	Panorama	Frontières	Esprit	Esprit	*Une semaine de vacances* (1980, Com. dramatique)				Volt
	-	-	14	-	Law & Order: SVU		News (N)		News (N)		King	King	Cold Case
	213	326	15	SUN	Scrubs	George Lopez	*Captive* (1998, Suspense) Richard Grieco, Michele Greene.				To Serve and Protect		Grill Rm.
	-	387	16	CBS	Inside Edition	Hollywood	Big Brother 10 (Live)		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		Flashpoint (HDTV) (N)		News (N)
	-	385	17	NBC	The Insider (N)	Entertainment	Last Comic Standing (Season Finale) (N)			America's Got Talent (N)			News (N)
	-	386	18	ABC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy!	A New Smile, a New Life		Grey's Anatomy		Hopkins (N)		News
	219	346	20	ACH-B	Wheel-Fortune	Degrassi: Next	Grey's Anatomy		30 Rock	America's Got Talent (N)			News (N)
	-	-	28	FOX	Judge Judy	Two/Half Men	So You Think You Can Dance Winner revealed.				Seinfeld	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons
	-	388	61	PBS	News-Lehrer	Goodnight Swt.	Great Performances at the Met John Doyle's production of "Peter Grimes."						Business Rpt.
	297	652	330	WPX	Two/Half Men	Family Guy	Smallville "Veritas"		Supernatural (HDTV)		CW11 News at Ten		Two/Half Men
	296	654	331	SBK	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy!	Dr. Phil		News (N)	Jeopardy!	Frasier	Frasier	Cheers
	298	653	332	TLA	Reba	Reba	My Wife-Kids	According-Jim	Family Guy	Family Guy	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Smallville
news	502	390	26	NW	CBC News	Our World	The Hour		CBC News: The National		Wild China		National
	500	500	33	CNN	Lou Dobbs Tonight		CNN Election Center		Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)		
	509	504	79	CNB	Kudlow & Company		On the Money		Made in China, Profit		The Big Idea With Deutsch		Mad Money
sports	405	417	22	net	MLB Baseball Oakland Athletics at Toronto Blue Jays. From Rogers Centre in Toronto.						Sportsnet Connected		Sportsnet Con.
	400	400	30	TSN	CFL Football Toronto Argonauts at Hamilton Tiger-Cats. (HDTV) (Live)						CFL Football: Stampeders at Roughriders		
	411	457	58	OLN	Exploration	Videos	Coltrane's Britain		Mark Williams' Big Bangs		Don't Forget Your Passport		Pilot Guides
	417	406	81	SC	Pinks	Pass Time (N)	Pinks -- All Out		Pinks -- All Out (HDTV) (N)		Wrecked (N)	Wrecked (N)	Pinks
family	551	542	25	YTV	Prank Patrol	Prank Patrol	Fries That?	Futurama	Prank Patrol	Mystery Hnt.	Falcon Beach		Mystery Hnt.
	554	544	45	TEL	George-Jungle	Tom & Jerry	Tom and Jerry	6teen	Total Drama	Futurama	*Joe's Apartment* (1996, Musical Comedy)		
	556	540	51	FAM	That's-Raven	Smart Guy	Zack & Cody	Natural-Sadie	Han. Montana	Life Derek	Ned's School	Cory in House	Zack & Cody
cable variety	602	567	27	W	Will & Grace	Friends	Divine Design	House	Confidential	Save Us-House	Open House	Save Us-House	House
	570	580	29	MM	Instant Star	Born to Be	Muchmusic Countdown			Instant Star	Instant Star	MuchTopTens	
	615	520	31	A&E	CSI: Miami "Lost Son"		The First 48 (HDTV)		The First 48 (HDTV)		The First 48 (HDTV)		I Survived
	700	800	35	TLN	Centrovetrine	Sky TG 24	Le Giraffe				The Sopranos (SS)		Raymond
	571	581	36	MMM	mmmtop	Back In	Canadian Idol		Canadian Idol	Uncovered	Celebracadabra		Canadian Idol
	575	583	38	CMT	(6) Ultimate "Cameos"		Karaoke Star "Edmonton, AB"		Reba	Hope & Faith	Home Improve.	Roseanne	Karaoke Star
	616	521	39	SHO	ReGenesis (HDTV)		Intelligence		G-Spot	Exes & Ohs	Secret Diary	Secret Diary	House
	620	523	40	BVO	From the Spirit	Beyond-Screen	Hamlet Development.		*Deconstructing Harry* ★★★ (1997, Comedy-Drama)				Law & Order
	601	562	41	SLC	End of Leash	Til Debt-Part	Rich Bride, Poor Bride		Last 10	Bulging Brides	The Biggest Loser		Rich Poor
	522	506	43	HIS	NCIS "Deception"		Pearl Harbor: Who Fired First		Air Wars		NCIS "Deception"		Crime Stories
	625	548	44	COM	Air Farce	22 Minutes	Laughs	Rick Mercer	The Simpsons	South Park	Reality Bites	Tom Green	Daily Show
	600	564	46	H&G	House Hunters	Property Virgin	Holmes on Homes		The Fix	Disaster DIY	Junk Brothers	The Big Flip	Holmes-Homes
	294	529	47	TBS	Family Guy	Family Guy	The Single: Monica		*I Spy* ★★ (2002, Comedy) Eddie Murphy, Owen Wilson.				Seinfeld
	576	582	49	BET	106 & Park	Hell Date	Black Carpet	Baldwin Hills	*Vampire in Brooklyn* ★★ (1995, Comedy) Eddie Murphy.				Hell Date
	627	528	50	SPC	Stargate SG-1 "Heroes"		Star Trek: Voyager		*Earthstorm* (2006, Science Fiction) Stephen Baldwin.				Stargate SG-1
	581	566	52	MTV	Next	Cribs	Canada's Next Top Model		Cribs Wildest Antics		True Life		MTV Live
	618	524	54	TROP	Inside Hollywood (DVS)		ET Canada	What Happen?	Family Guy	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Frasier	Family Guy
	603	561	56	FOOD	Boy Grill	Licence to Grill	Restaurant Makeover		Unwrapped	Unwrapped	Secret Life of	Secret Life of	Ace of Cakes
	261	394	60	V	Murder, She Wrote		Fun-Funeral	Keeping Up	*The Amazing Captain Nemo* ★★ (1978, Adventure)				Emily-Moon
	621	527	63	STR	Look-A-Like	Hollywood	TMZ (N)	eTalk	Katie & Peter: Next Chapter		The Tonight Show-Jay Leno		eTalk
	553	546	65	TRE	Ni Hao, Kai-lan	Nght Grdn	The Wiggles	Franklin	Little Bear	Miss Spider	Comfy Couch	Rolie Polie Olie	Beren. Bears
	115	711	101	TVA	*Les Tontons farceurs* ★★ (1965, Comédie) Jerry Lewis.				Héros "L'Homme de main"		TVA 22 heures	Sucré-salé	*Rock Star* ★★
	126	730	102	RDI	RDI en direct	400 fois Qué	Grands reportages (SC)		Le Téléjournal (SC)		RDI en direct	Le National	Le Téléjournal
	526	507	249	CLT	The West Wing		*The Waiting Game* (1998, Drama) Paula Abdul, Art Hindle.				Traders "Price You Pay"		The West Wing
	300	601	301	M1	*Charlotte's Web* ★★★ (2006, Drama) Dakota Fanning				*The Nines* ★★ (2007, Drama) Ryan Reynolds.				*Friends-Money*
	305	612	306	PIX	(7:15) *The Rare Breed* ★★★ (1966, Western)				*Lethal Weapon* ★★★ (1987, Action) Mel Gibson.				*Lethal Wpn 2*

critics' corner

Pearl Harbor: Who Fired First

Was the attack on Pearl Harbor for no reason? Or was it in retaliation for something the United States did? After finding a sunken Japanese submarine, the filmmakers wondered if the U.S. attacked Japan prior to the Pearl Harbor air assault. This special examines that theory. 8 PM on HIS

Last Comic Standing

Are we having fun yet? The votes are in, and tonight the winner of this talent contest for stand-up comedians is crowned. The victor gets $250,000, a talent contract with NBC, a new vehicle and a starring appearance in a Las Vegas show. In addition to the announcement of the winner, the season finale includes performances by Jon Lovitz and last year's winner, Jon Reep. Gilbert Gottfried, Joel McHale, and Penn & Teller also stop by. 9 PM on GTV

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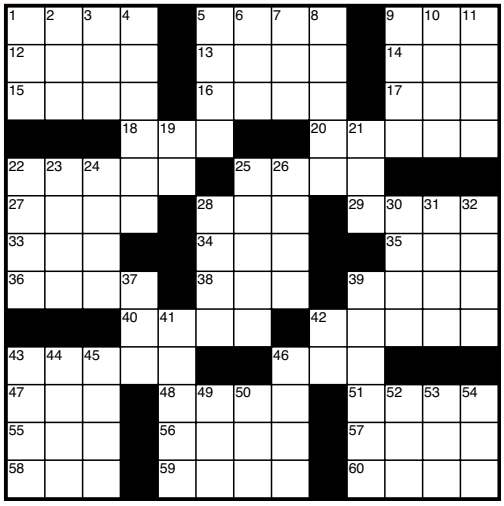
New baby for Bice
American Idol rocker Bo Bice and his wife Carolyn welcomed their second child together, a son named Caleb, Tuesday in Nashville, Tenn. The couple are also parents to son Aidan, who will be three in September. **E! NEWS ONLINE**

Take Five



Crossword down

1 Checkers piece
2 Dot in the Seine
3 London lav
4 Bank, often
5 Chowder tidbit
6 Small, in Dogpatch
7 Bratty kid
8 Many-petaled blossom
9 Styptic
10 Hockey feint
11 Ballot marks
19 Hot Springs loc.
21 Grill, maybe
22 Mimicked
23 Tiresome one
24 Bait
25 Pirate's take
26 Church alcove
28 Begged
30 Not theirs
31 On a rampage
32 Pesters
37 Nick or scratch
39 Office chore
41 Hindu kingdom
42 West Coast st.
43 Strike ignorer
44 Island dance
45 "Iliad" warmonger
46 Repair
49 Ms. Hagen of films
50 Pull a fast one
52 Travel word
53 Once and for —
54 Social Register word

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Crossword across

1 Pepper grinder
5 Do the hedge
9 Fruity drink
12 Sunblock additive
13 Cement component
14 Superman foe — Luthor
15 Flashy sign
16 Dog-food brand
17 Hilo guitar
18 Flood control
20 Designates
22 More competent
25 Coves
27 Serve tea
28 Fireworks noise
29 Zen question
33 Make a mistake
34 Part of UCLA
35 Ms. Thurman
36 View as
38 Riviera summer
39 Wannabe prince
40 Garcia or Warhol
42 Hogsheads
43 Stock holding
46 — Von Sydow
47 Stray dog
48 Brownish-purple
51 "Terrible" tsar
55 Malt beverage
56 Egyptian god
57 Shade of green
58 — -relief
59 Terra firma
60 Stiff wind

previous day's answer

F	E	A	T		B	E	E	F		A	L	I
A	L	M	A		U	R	D	U		G	A	D
R	I	O	T		N	O	S	E	B	A	G	S
M	A	R	T	E	N	S		L	O			
				E	L	Y		V	E	G	G	I	E
A	L	A	R	M		M	A	D		A	R	T
G	A	B	S		H	I	T		E	L	A	N
E	K	E		O	A	R		A	M	A	N	A
D	E	T	A	C	H		U	T	E			
			R	T		I	N	E	R	T	I	A
G	O	O	F	O	F	F	S		G	U	R	U
I	D	A		P	O	S	E		E	B	O	N
G	E	T		I	G	O	R		D	E	N	T

Horoscopes

AVATAR VENUS

ARIES
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
A slothful friend makes a break with the past. Creative people will achieve their objectives. A hot romance will be put on hold.

TAURUS
APRIL 21-MAY 21
Money is coming from a strange place. Don't give up when a fantasy seems unattainable. A sweetheart gets rewards for fair play.

GEMINI
MAY 22-JUNE 21
Be more professional on the job. Unfinished business returns to haunt you. You have an overpowering urge to take immediate action.

CANCER
JUNE 22-JULY 22
A man has solutions to serious problems. A message sets the framework for romance. A manic friend gives you some wacky inspiration.

LEO
JULY 23-AUG 23
Make an agreement when a friend is in need. Someone cries the blues about being neglected. Discreditable dealings start to dissipate.

VIRGO
AUG 24-SEPT 22
Excellent treatment creates a welcoming mood. A radical change in surroundings is needed. Don't look for love in the wrong places.

LIBRA
SEPT 23-OCT 23
Don't hesitate to settle a dispute. A bitter conflict leads to a sweet resolution. Playing games with worthy opponents will lead to victory.

SCORPIO
OCT 24- NOV 22
Allow yourself to play out a hunch. A therapist has much to offer. Carelessness leads to strong words.

SAGITTARIUS
NOV 23- DEC 21
Insight is gained from an intimate encounter. Walk with a friend who feels miserable. A brat interferes with your concentration.

CAPRICORN
DEC 22-JAN 20
Caress a friend's dented ego. Someone wants to look at your confidential material. A strange creature provokes your curiosity.

AQUARIUS
JAN 21-FEB 18
Soon you'll be sure that you've found the right one. Your actions make a difference in someone's life. You'll cheer up after a chat.

PISCES
FEB 19-MAR 20
Anticipate a brief power battle in the morning. Don't walk away from a winning situation. A reckless woman makes an error.

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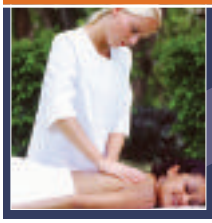
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Sudoku

		7					1	
3	1						5	4
		5	2			9	3	
6				9	8		2	
				6				
	2		1	7				3
	4	6			7	3		
1	7						4	9
	9					2		

HOW TO PLAY SUDOKU:
The digits 1 through 9 will appear exactly once in each row, each column, and each zone. (A zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine of these zones in the puzzle.) Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same 3x3 zone, or in the same row across the puzzle, or column down the puzzle.

previous day's answer

2	4	6	8	3	1	9	5	7
5	7	1	2	9	4	3	6	8
8	3	9	6	7	5	2	1	4
6	8	4	1	2	9	7	3	5
7	2	3	4	5	6	8	9	1
9	1	5	7	8	3	4	2	6
4	9	7	5	6	2	1	8	3
1	5	2	3	4	8	6	7	9
3	6	8	9	1	7	5	4	2

SUDOKU SOLVE TIME IN MINUTES:

Under 13. . . . . Genius
13-17 . . . . . Scholar
17-21. . . . . Smart
21-25. . . . . Not bad
25+ . . . . . Keep practising

more games metronews.ca

Toronto weather

The Weather Network
theweathernetwork.com

Afternoon	Tonight	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
60%	40%	60%	40%	40%
Thunder-showers. 24°	Thunder-showers. 16°	Thunder-showers. 23°/ 14°	Showers. 24°/ 17°	Showers. 23°/ 14°

Temperature
Normals
High: 27°
Low: 14.6°

Records
High: 35.6°/2001
Low: 6.7°/1948

Sunrise: 6:14 a.m.
Sunset: 8:33 p.m.
Moonrise: 1:17 p.m.
Moonset: 11:08 p.m.

TWN incorporates MSC data

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Wedding's off
Designer Tommy Hilfiger's wedding has been called off, just days before the ceremony was due to take place. He was set to marry Dee Ocleppo on the Caribbean island of Mustique tomorrow. The split is said to be amicable. IMDB.COM

Celebrity Buzz

Jen may eye parenthood with John

RELATIONSHIPS Jennifer Aniston is so head-over-heels in love, she's convinced for the first time since her marriage crumbled in 2005 that the time is right for her to finally become a mother, starmagazine.com reports.

"She feels so loved," says a friend of the actress' relationship with singer John Mayer. "John has really been doting on her. I mean, the presents, phone calls, romantic dinners — he's laying it on thick. It all makes Jen feel really important and special."

Aniston reportedly feels that after all she has been through watching her ex-husband Brad Pitt's family with actress Angelina Jolie grow, she'd love for Pitt to see photos of her holding her own baby.

"Jen feels so strongly that John is 'the one,' " says a source. "She knows he can handle being a dad."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

GETTY IMAGES PHOTOS

Scarlett's all for Canada

RELATIONSHIPS Scarlett Johansson, who in May announced her engagement to Canadian-born actor Ryan Reynolds, says she's eager to become an honorary Canadian — and hopefully pass through the border quickly from now on, People.com reports.

"I'm very excited," the actress said. "I've had wonderful times in Canada. It's a lovely country. It's a beautiful country and hopefully I'll be able to get through immigration faster now!"

METRO NEWS SERVICES

celebrity brief

Leona working on fashion line

RUMOUR Leona Lewis is set to launch her own fashion line, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The singer is due to meet Sir Philip Green, the owner of British high street chain Topshop, about designing her own collection.

Lewis has said she would like to design non-leather shoes and bags.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

celebrity brief

Angie pregnant with No. 3

BABY NEWS Angie Harmon is prepping for baby No. 3, starmagazine.com reports.

The actress is three and half months along with her third child. She already has two daughters, Finley, 4, and Avery, 3, with retired football player Jason Sehorn.

"She is over the moon and glowing," a source said. "And because the actress is so thin she is already sporting a tiny bump."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Keira out to prove smarts

PEOPLE "I am completely uneducated."

That's Keira Knightley, talking to Tatler about how her lack of higher learning has made her more determined to expand her knowledge base, MSN Entertainment reports.

"Not going to university did give me an incredible driving force because it leaves you with a slight chip on your shoulder," the actress admits. "It makes me feel I am going to read absolutely everything so I can prove that I am not stupid."

Among the highbrow tomes on Knightley's bookshelf: a history of the Vietnam War, a biography on Hitler's go-to architect Albert Speer and Germaine Greer's The Female Eunuch.

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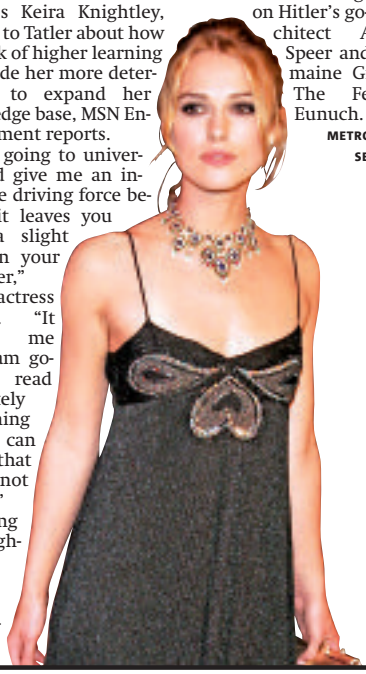

"This makes no sense at all..."

by Joe O'Neill

Scarlett Johansson wants to become a Canadian? Easy peasey, Scar. Just wait for somebody to step on your foot, then apologize to them. This, plus getting a hockey haircut, will automatically qualify you for Canadian citizenship.

In all fairness to the TV executive who told **Anna Friel** to lay off the doughnuts, he had just watched her scream, "You! You! Git in ma belly!" at a Krispy Kreme.

Leona Lewis wants to design "animal-friendly" bags. I have an extremely animal-friendly hockey bag in my attic. A raccoon had babies inside it. I'm mailing it to her tomorrow.

Katie Holmes just wants you to know she's a normal girl. She trips, she runs into things, and she spills food. This tells me just one thing: **Tom Cruise** needs to get somebody to look at his wireless "Katie-Controller" system. What's the use of surgically altering your wife's appearance until it's identical to your own if the chip in her head goes on the fritz and she escapes?

Chace Crawford frets over his grandparents blanching at the sight of him having sex on a barstool? I never had that problem, but of course, my grandparents owned the bar.

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DiCaprio mourns grandmother
Leonardo DiCaprio is mourning the death of his beloved grandmother. The actor's grandmother Helene Indenbirken died in a hospital in her native North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany. She was 93. No date or cause of death has yet been confirmed. IMDB.COM

Celebrity Buzz

Cameron's relationship on the rocks?

RELATIONSHIPS Cameron Diaz reportedly wants to end her romance with her latest lover Paul Sculfor, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The actress' relationship with the model is in trouble after just two months, say friends.

Diaz is now said to be suggesting a trial separation, despite recently making plans to move in with Sculfor.

"Paul has moved his things into Cameron's Los Angeles home, but she insists the relationship has no strings attached," a source told Britain's Daily Mirror newspaper. "She has a 'don't ask, don't tell' rule — when they aren't in each other's company they can do as they like. She keeps telling Paul she's not ready to settle down and scrapped plans to fly to the U.K. to meet his family."

Diaz started dating Sculfor after his split from actress Jennifer Aniston.

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GETTY IMAGES PHOTOS

Show makes Chace squirm

TELEVISION Chace Crawford says he can sometimes get uncomfortable with the racy undertone of his hit show Gossip Girl, usmagazine.com reports.

"Is that a weight on my conscience?" Crawford says in an interview with London's The Independent. "Well, yes, I think it is. I come from a moral background, and I can see the power of the show, and imagine my old school teachers cringing, or my grandparents thinking, 'Oh, my God,' when they see me, say, having sex on a barstool. But you have to remember, this is not a reality show. It's supposed to be pure entertainment."

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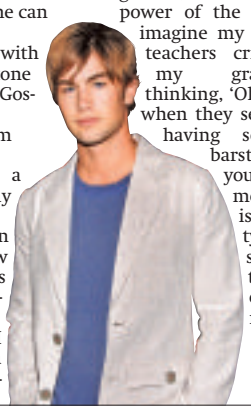

Katie admits nerdiness

PEOPLE Katie Holmes has revealed she was a nerd at school, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The actress admits despite her calm and elegant exterior, she is actually just like everybody else.

"I can't deny that I'm a nerd," Holmes said. "I am who I am. I'm pretty normal, I'm not a smooth type of girl, I run into things, I trip, I spill food, I say stupid things — I really don't have it all together. But I'm working on it — I really am."

Holmes also revealed she never had much luck with boys while she was at school.

"In hindsight, I think going to an all-girls school meant we missed out socially," she added to Britain's OK! Magazine. "We came out of school and it was suddenly, 'Oh my God! Boys!' I was all about, 'How do I look? What is he thinking?' We weren't used to being around boys in a normal setting and seeing them as friends."

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Justin dishes about Madonna

MUSIC Singer Justin Timberlake has opened up about working with pop star Madonna, deeming her as a very "specific" person to work with, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

Timberlake, who collaborated with Madonna on the single 4 Minutes, admits it took time for them to see eye to eye during their recording sessions.

"Madonna is definitely specific about what she wants and I can't knock her for that," he said. "I respond to that because I'm that way, too. But I also think that it took us just a second to mesh our style, that's all. We're both strong personalities, some of us stronger than others and I didn't know it at the time. But I actually enjoyed the process of working with her."

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celebrity brief

Anna reveals weight struggle

PEOPLE British actress Anna Friel found it hard to find work when she moved to the United States because she refused to lose weight for roles, imdb.com reports.

"The obsession with weight today is just incredible .... I don't understand it," the Pushing Daisies star says.

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celebrity brief

It's baby times 2 for Lisa Marie

BABY NEWS Lisa Marie Presley is pregnant with twins, her rep has confirmed.

Presley, 40, who is expected to give birth in the fall, has two teenage children, daughter Riley, 19, and son Benjamin, 15, with ex Danny Keough. The twins will be Presley's first children with husband Michael Lockwood.

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